

# **The Book Reviews of Chester Cuthbert**

**Authors' surnames beginning with**

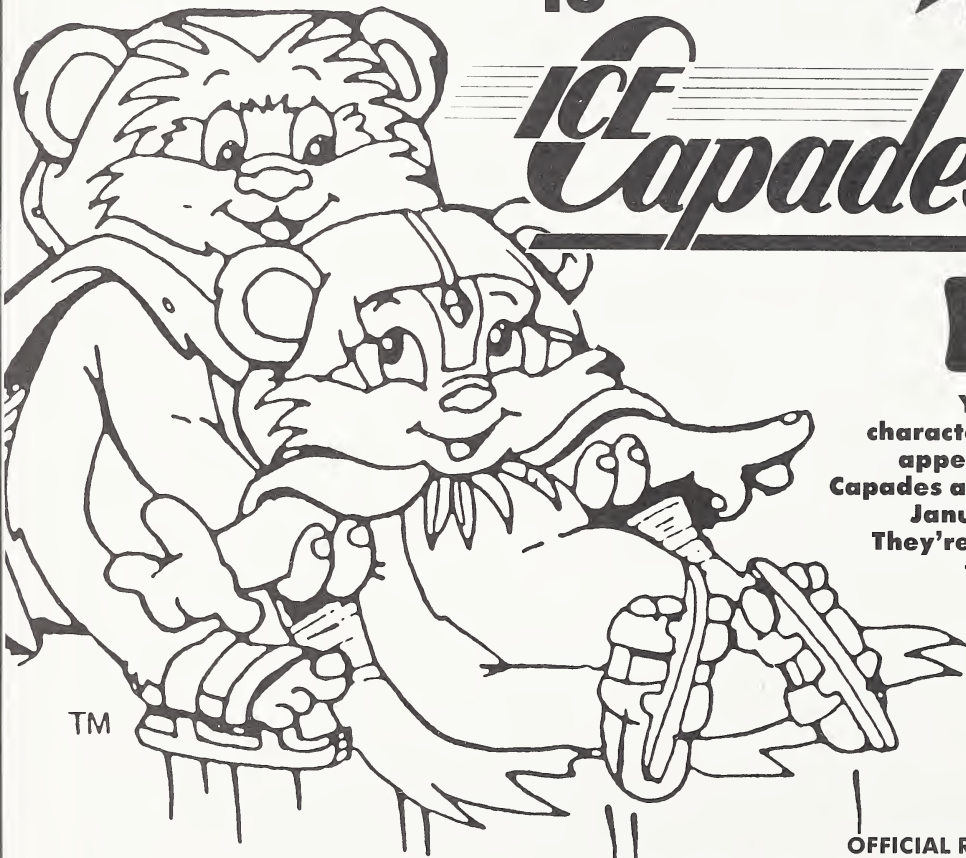
**Se-Sh**



# SAFEWAY COLOURING CONTEST

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**SAFEWAY**

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Seabrook, William

Americans All: A Human Study of America's Citizens  
from Europe; London, Toronto, Bombay, Sydney, George G. Har-  
rap & Co. Ltd., (1938, Publishers) 292p.

v.t.: These Foreigners (unconfirmed)

Concentrating principally on Scandinavians, Italians, German, Poles, and Russians, this book assembles information about the numbers, the principal leaders and famous people, and their general racial characteristics, their reasons for coming to America, and their influence on American life.

Seabrook characterises Upton Sinclair as an impractical Utopian.

The only special information of interest to me is the witchcraft material on pages 179-180.

This book might be of importance to students of sociology and of racism.





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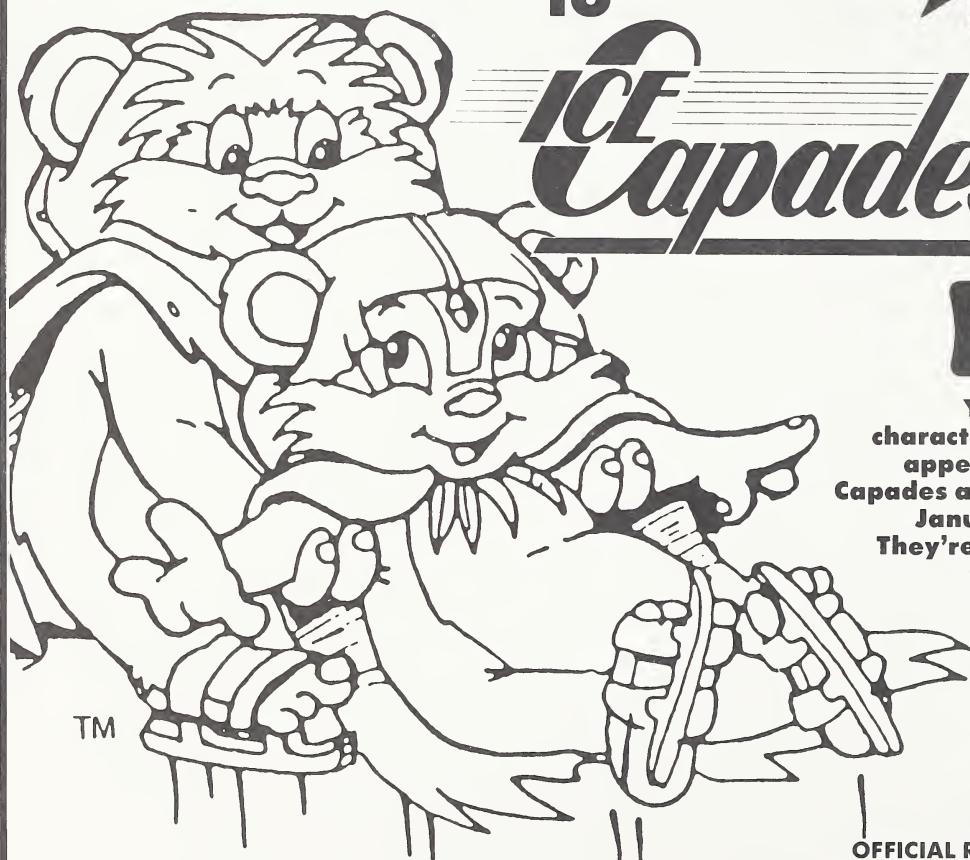
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Seabrook, William

Doctor Wood: Modern Wizard of the Laboratory; The Story of an American Small Boy Who Became the Most Daring and Original Experimental Physicist of Our Day--but Never Grew Up; New York, Harcourt, Brace and Company; Illustrated; Bibliography 335p.

Wood's first publication is reprinted in Vol. 2, of James' Principles of Psychology (Hasheesh)

He was a fan of Jules Verne, and pointed out to his teacher an error in Verne's A Trip to the Moon (pp.89-90), collaborated with Arthur Train on two sf serials, one reprinted as The Man Who Rocked the Earth (see my notes), the other "The Moon-Maker" (pp.172-177)

All of Chapter 17 is important to me. Wood investigated Palladino and "Margery" Crandon, knew Doyle and Lodge, Hyslop and was on the Scientific American committee.

Seabrook has drawn on notes made by Wood, often quoting these in the course of the book, but this biography centers on scientific achievements rather than Wood's personal life, and much of the text is for students of astronomy, physics, and chemistry, rather than for the general reader.

This book should be retained for reference in connection with science fiction and psychic phenomena.



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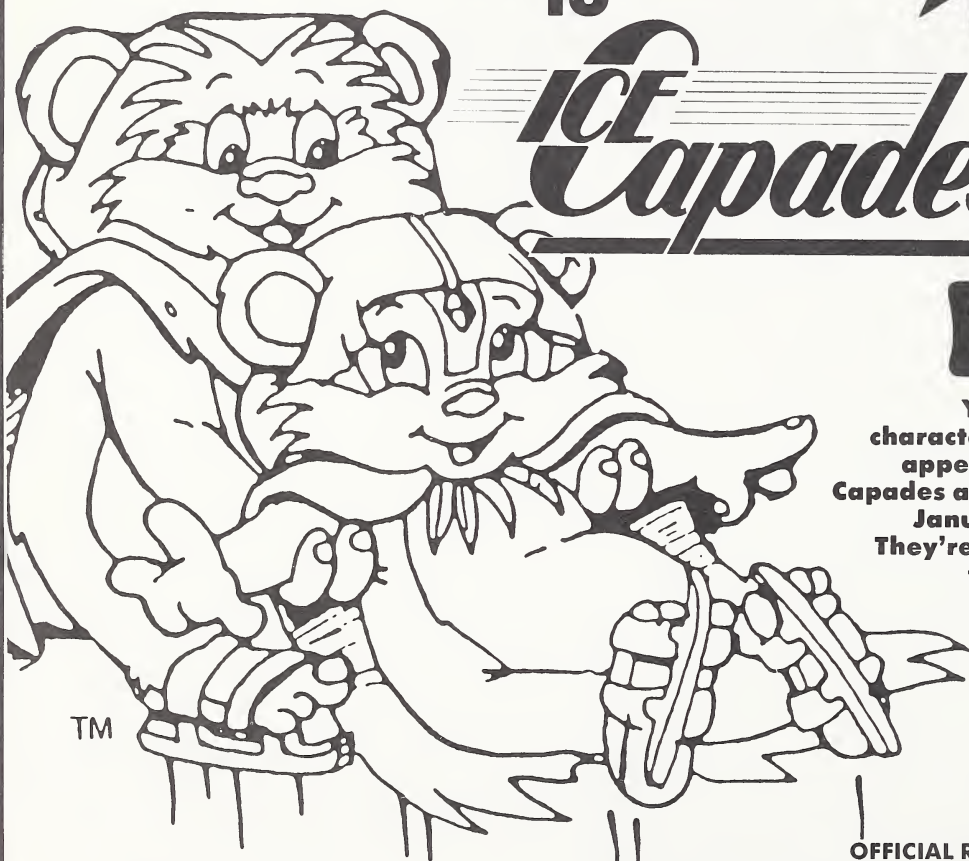
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Seabrook, W. B.

The Magic Island; Illustrated with drawings by Alexander King and photographs by the Author; New York, Harcourt, Brace and Company (1929, Publishers) 336p.  
New York, Lancer Books (#75-038), (1968) 350p.

The paperback edition is not illustrated.

Several chapters of this book have been reprinted in anthologies, and it is an important book because the author does not denigrate the voodoo practices. The first sections of the book are the most important and interesting to me, as the latter part is more travel and sociology of Haiti. It is background material for his later book on Witchcraft.





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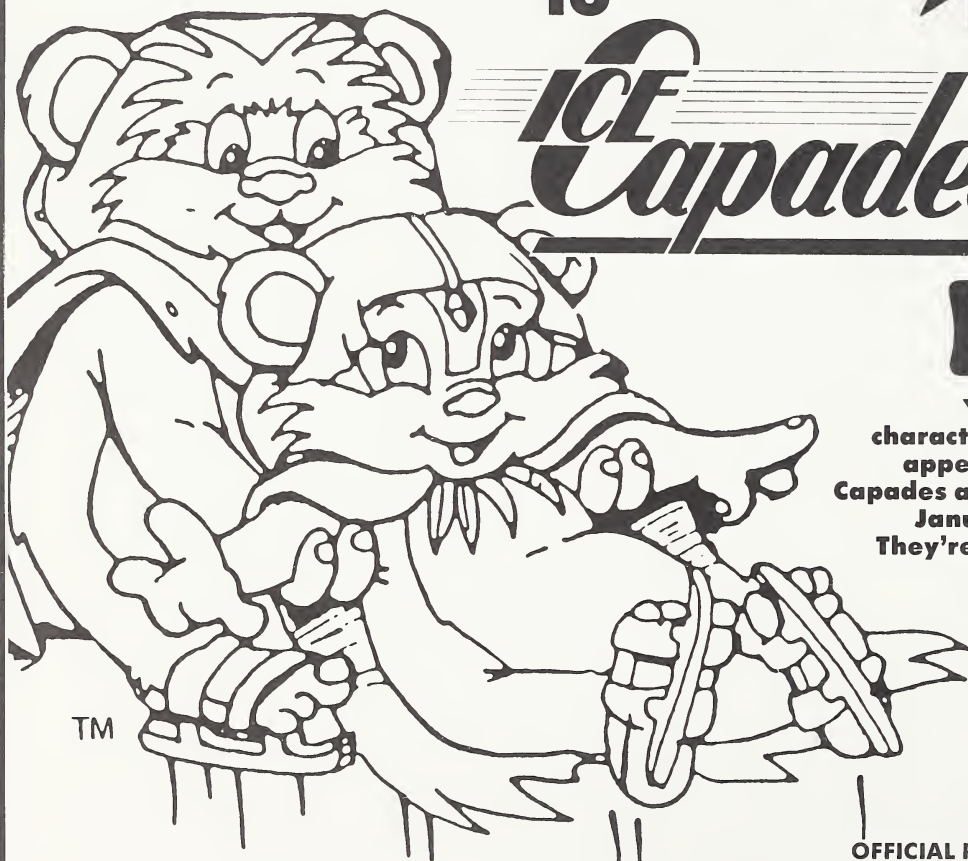
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# SAFEWAY

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Seabrook, William

No Hiding Place: An Autobiography; Philadelphia, London, New York, J. B. Lippincott Company (1942, author) 406p.

The attached Time review is an adequate summary of this book, but is in error in describing Seabrook as a "dark-haired" man: he was blond.

Wonderfully well written, underemphasised, uninhibited, this story mentions that Seabrook wrote about 100,000 words about his experiments in occultism at his estate on the Hudson but did not publish them as he feared that he had already said more than was wise in his book Witchcraft. He said that Marjorie Worthington had sued for divorce after Constance Kuhr forced him to submerge his elbows in boiling water so he could not lift a bottle above his waist, and when he told Marjorie that Constance would not be leaving his estate.

His first wife, Katie, re-married, and their divorce was a friendly one: they stayed friends.

My impression of Seabrook is that he was a genius, warned from youth sexually and as an alcoholic or by drugs, but with an uncanny ability to assess his role in life and its purpose. With no head for figures, constantly in trouble financially until his writing "paid off", he was unable to settle down to routine or commercial ambitions.

Very definitely, all his work should be analysed and studied. His ability to sense beyond appearances is proven by his delight when Hurston's Tell My Horse confirmed what he had said in The Magic Island, and refuted his critics.

I am looking forward to reading Marjorie Worthington's biography of him.





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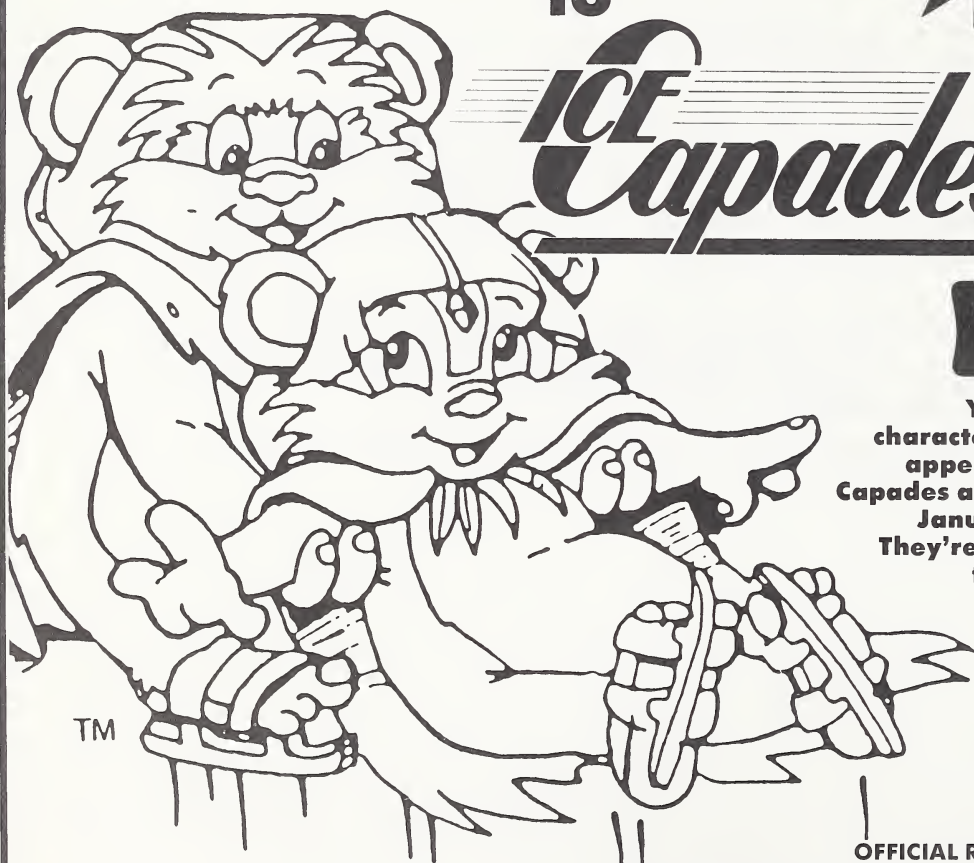
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Seabrook, William

The White Monk of Timbuctoo; Illustrated; New York, Harcourt, Brace and Company (1934, Publishers) 279p.

This biography of a White Friar's priest, uxorious, who married as her second husband a black woman with two children by her former marriage and who continued to have relations with other black women, who became administrator, translator, scholar, and principal citizen of Timbuctoo, is based on his notes and partial diary.

Seabrook points out that sexual customs differ in parts of the world, and that there is no such thing as standard sexual morality. Just as some of my favorite authors were either heavy drinkers or alcoholics, so some of the greatest characters in history were sexually promiscuous, prolific, and impatient of legal rules and behaviour.

There is little in this book of permanent interest to me, but it contains references to characters who appear in other Seabrook books.



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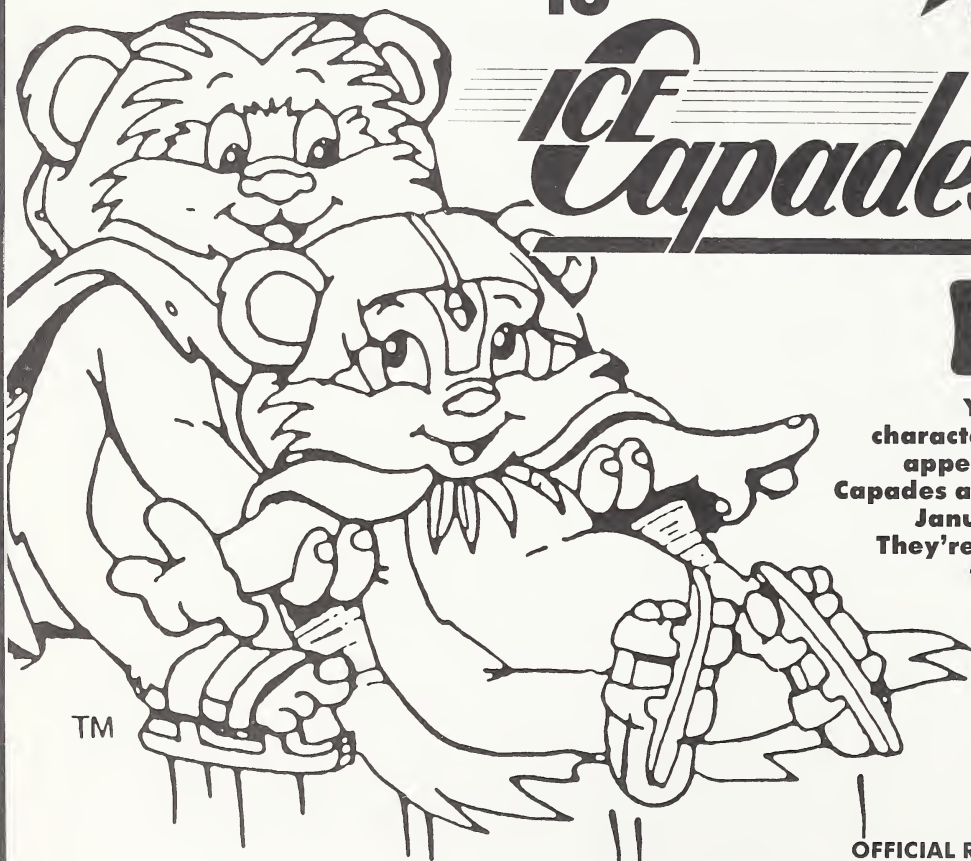
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Seabrook, William

Witchcraft--Its Power in the World Today; London, White Lion Publishers Limited (1972), (1940,1972, author) 351p.

This is one of the most fascinating and important books on occultism and extrasensory perception I have read.

Seabrook made a study of magic and occultism from youth and admits that even though he is sceptical of paranormal phenomena, experiences he has had with people he has known have left him doubtful of even his own scepticism.

He apparently knew personally the Upton Sinclairs, two of the three currently prominent occultists whom he likened to Cagliostro, and Crowley, Frank Harris, J. B. Rhine, and many practitioners of magic in Africa. His experiences are detailed and interesting. I have previously read only three of Seabrook's books, but this fourth encourages me to read all the others; I seem to have all his books. He mentions Marjorie who wrote a biography of him, and also Katie Seabrook but who Katie was, I do not know.

This book must be retained for reference.

New York, Lancer Books (#74-924), (1968), (1940, Harcourt, Brace & Co., Inc.) 351p.





# 1982 ALL-CANADA CONVENTION

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

## REGISTRATION FORM EXPLANATION

This year there is a Women's Retreat prior to the Convention itself. The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is available Tuesday night for those wishing to arrive early for this event.

A. Registration ... We hope you will find this self explanatory. Please note separate registration for Encounter Groups. There is no Convention registration fee for children under eleven years. (See Day Care).

B. Accomodation... The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is passing along the \$8.00 per person bedding charge, in which they receive no profit. This bedding is for the entire time, regardless of how long you stay.

Children twelve years and under who stay with adults, will be provided with a mattress at one half the \$4.50 adult price... i.e. \$2.25 per night and their linen is \$8.00

C. Meals... For catering purposes, the Mennonite Brethren Bible College must have an accurate count in advance of the Convention.

You will note there is no supper being served on Saturday at the Convention site. The cafeteria will be closed on Sunday morning. Home Street church will be providing a light complimentary lunch following the Sunday morning worship service.

For children under twelve, all meals are half adult price, with exception of those three years and under, whose meals are free.

The C.C.W.F. luncheon has been combined with the C.C.M.F. luncheon because of our special speaker, Dr. Jean Woolfolk.

D. Child Care.... The cost of \$4.00 per day includes two snacks and a noon meal, and the child's care after breakfast until 5.00 p.m.

Seabury, David

Help Yourself to Happiness; New York/London, Whittlesey  
House: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc. (1937); 9th ptg;  
Index 345p.

Although this is a competent survey of the psychological factors involved in achieving the balanced outlook essential to happiness, it is written in a style comprehensible to only an educated and intelligent person. It would be difficult for any person so disturbed as to need the advice to concentrate sufficiently to understand many of the statements made by Seabury. Aside from this quibble, I would recommend the book for its sensible advice.

Seabury is a non-sectarian Christian who believes in the soul and in spiritual values. He declares that regardless of all the germs in the universe, disease originates from within the spirit, and that correction of the spiritual outlook will effect a cure of functional disorders of the body. In this he agrees with Quimby and other forerunners of Christian Science; humility and unselfish devotion to a cause or to the good of others distract attention from oneself and give direction and purpose to life.

I believe that anyone prepared to follow the general regimen and philosophy of Seabury would benefit.

The index, and particularly the detailed listing under the heading of Therapeutic techniques, is helpful, and might be sufficient to guide people unable to concentrate on reading the text as a whole. The book is worth keeping for reference.





Seager, Yvonne

Unicorn at Large; London, Cassell and Company Ltd;  
(1957, Seager) 188p.

This novel is debatable as fantasy: the Unicorn is a beast seen by a picnic party of three children and their attendant, and to which is attributed superstitiously by the village inhabitants the malign influence which leads to accidents and other events which transpire.

A London reporter who has previously visited the village to obtain the background story to a thief who has been imprisoned for two years following a robbery, falls in love with the thief's fiancée who has been faithful to him and visits him in prison, hoping that he will overcome his feelings of rebellion and become a good citizen. Children and adults who are characters in the story as it progresses, are not extraordinary but are reasonably well presented; but this is definitely a woman's book, with details of daily life more important than any theme or general philosophy.

The thief escapes, and sets off for France with a girl he has promised marriage, but is killed by police, leaving his faithful fiancée free to marry the reporter.

Aside from its depiction of village life, this novel has no claim to attention.



Seamark, (Austin J. Small)

The Avenging Ray; London, Hodder and Stoughton Limited;  
no date 314p.

This is just about as hackneyed a science fiction novel as can be found.

Gerry Windermaine is invited to a baronet friend's home and enjoined to marry his daughter, whom Gerry has not seen for a couple of years. Before her arrival, he meets a girl vilified by the locals for living with a madman giant, and falls in love with her. He notes strange phenomena in the countryside: paths like burning which disintegrate at a touch, animals like dust, strange lights.

The madman has invented a degravitisor and a disintegrator, and with accumulators of power is able to threaten the world with annihilation. He considers it a divine mission to destroy the world for its sins.

Gerry overcomes the madman with his daughter's aid, and in a paroxysm of fury the madman breaks a blood vessel and dies. Gerry and Rosaine fadeout to happiness.

Excepting as an example of the early science fiction which is now happily a thing of the past, this novel has no merit.





"Seamark" (Austin J. Small)

The Master Mystery; London, Hooder and Stoughton Limited  
(no date) 313p.

(as by Austin J. Small), New York, A. L. Burt Company;  
(1928, Austin J. Small) 341p.

I read this book from the Burt edition, the print being easier to read, although it is also very good in the first edition.

The Gairlie rubies are stolen, and the theft traced to an itinerant Italian with a monkey and organ; it is later found that he has as a companion a cretin little over three feet tall, and the confusion created between the monkey and the cretin delays the solution of the mystery. They reside in an isolated cabin, but also on the roof of Gairlie castle from where they descend by rope to steal objects red-colored which is why suspicion fell originally on the monkey.

Although told as a baffling mystery, the failure of a corps of police to find the roof hiding place makes them appear stupid and anticlimaxes the mystery.

It is an interesting story, involving the manufacture of artificial silk by the hero who saves his father-in-law from bankruptcy. There may be sufficient science fiction elements to qualify this as fantasy, but it is primarily a murder mystery, and should be so classified.





Seamark (Austin J. Small)

The Mystery-Maker; London, Hodder and Stoughton Limited  
no date 318p.

Col. John Stayne, with a reputation of being involved in many criminal cases, is under suspicion at Scotland Yard, but is actually a Secret Service operative. It is necessary for him to stay one step ahead of both the C.I.D. and the crooks he is tracking down, but he has never yet failed on a case.

The death of a diplomat is followed by theft of his widow's jewels apparently arranged to collect insurance; and a watch is instituted over the proprietors of a gambling house in Paris where the widow has lost heavily. Stayne becomes aware that these gamblers are engaged in a swindle which will discredit England's credit by forging stock certificates and British bank notes. A brother and sister employed in the diplomatic service become involved; the brother as scapegoat is imprisoned and the sister seeks Stayne's help to free him and clear his name; the sister is engaged to the forger for the gamblers who have the widow of the diplomat under their control by means of gambling debts and drug addiction.

Stayne's main problems are to escape Scotland Yard's surveillance and at the same time effect the aims of his superiors in the Secret Service, from whom he obtains expert assistance. The story is full of prison escape, disguises, impersonations and all the other trappings of the 'twenties' mystery novel; its improbability is perhaps demonstrated by the impossibility of checking and counting the currency and stocks which are discovered in the safe at the offices of the swindlers and turned over to the Paris Surete. However, as a mystery thriller of its day, it probably ranks fairly high.

Although interesting, this novel is merely sensational contrived fiction, with almost no basis in reality.



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These are mainly adventure stories laid in the far north or in Africa or on the seas.

(4) and (8) relate to African magic or healing powers; (5) deals with the artificial manufacture of diamonds, but is rationalized; (7) has the spirit of a dead man witness the outcome of his execution; and (13) is open to ambivalent interpretations regarding fantasy or hallucination.

The author does not have an adequate grasp of either the technique or the technical background to enable him to narrate his stories with the conviction essential to impress the reader with their plausibility. These are commercial short stories, depending largely on gimmickry for their effects, and although interesting, are not important.





"Thirteen Ghostly Yarns" Edited by Elizabeth Hough Lechman;  
Philadelphia, Macrae-Smith Company (Revised Edition) 1942; 240 p.p.

Blurb from Back Jacket: "Here are thirteen of the finest ghost stories ever written, especially selected for older boy and girl readers by an editor whose long experience as a story-teller, author and children's librarian has admirably qualified her for the task. Unlike collections of stories of the supernatural for adults, emphasis has been placed on the element of surprise and on the humorous rather than on the gruesome or morbid, and only stories of proven popularity which have survived the test of time have been included. Represented are such respected and well-loved authors as Mark Twain, Lafcadio Hearn, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, John Kendrick Bange, Washington Irving, Edgar Allan Poe and others. The present edition, re-issued in response to popular demand on the part of parents, teachers, and librarians has been completely re-set and printed from new plates, and two stories not in the original edition replace selections found by actual experience to have been the least effective."

Illustrated by Guy Foy

Preface: Thirteen - that significant numeral of legendary superstition - is the number of ghost tales chosen for this collection. Primarily the book is intended for the young reader whose tastes lean toward the supernatural: ghosts, spooks, and unfathomable situations of all varieties and any kinds. From my own experience as a storyteller I know that these eager listeners and readers are in the majority, and I know too that ghost stories for them to read are all too scarce. In addition, this collection is intended as a supplementary reader and with that

in mind I have endeavored to present here only the best in literature, at the same time excluding the too-bewitching, the too-grotesque, the morbid - qualities which are characteristic of ghost collections for the adult reader.

"Human takes their chief place amongst their games. In Frank 'Quinn's' 'Ghost Story' there are haunts to make the blood curdle, and then there is a revelation that is as ridiculous as anything this famous humorist has ever conceived. In his 'Latin Ghost' John Kendrick Bangs satirizes the serious ghost tale in his usual witty, witty style. 'The Devil in the Belfry' by Poe is one of the very few humorous stories written by the author of the perfect mystery tale. The description of 'Verduantheim' and the splendidly 'Devil in the Belfry' who appears bodily in broad daylight, causing the clock to strike 'thirteen o'clock' is an exquisite piece of humor from an ultra-serious mind.

"The Devil in the Belfry" by Hawthorne presents a serious, or here ghost. In Japanese there are no legends for the re-telling of that beautiful Chinese legend of the riverine 'Lo-Hgai' who appears with each clap of the great bell in the 'da-chung' ay, when Chinese mothers whisper to their children, 'Listen! that is Lo-Hgai saying for her share!' In 'Latin Rags', the 'rearing man' 'Quinn' leaves the problem to be solved by the reader; only the ghostly facts are presented. With 'Mark's' ghost we are all familiar. As for the ghost of 'Hamlet's' father, it is never not even fitting to omit that apparition from this collection. In the story of 'Hendry Matty', the author's 'Cousin' explains away these weird happenings by the fact that 'Hendry Matty had drunk too much 'eggy hot'; while 'Kipling', in his two stories from India, never has us believe that he really has no faith at all in ghosts!

For a few instances there have been certain words, sentences,



"Thirteen Ghostly Yarns" Edited by Elizabeth Hough Sechrist

and occasionally paragraphs omitted from the original versions of these stories.

And now the thirteen tales are sent forth with the hope that all who read them may derive some pleasure from them and feel the desire to go back to them again and again because they are old friends.

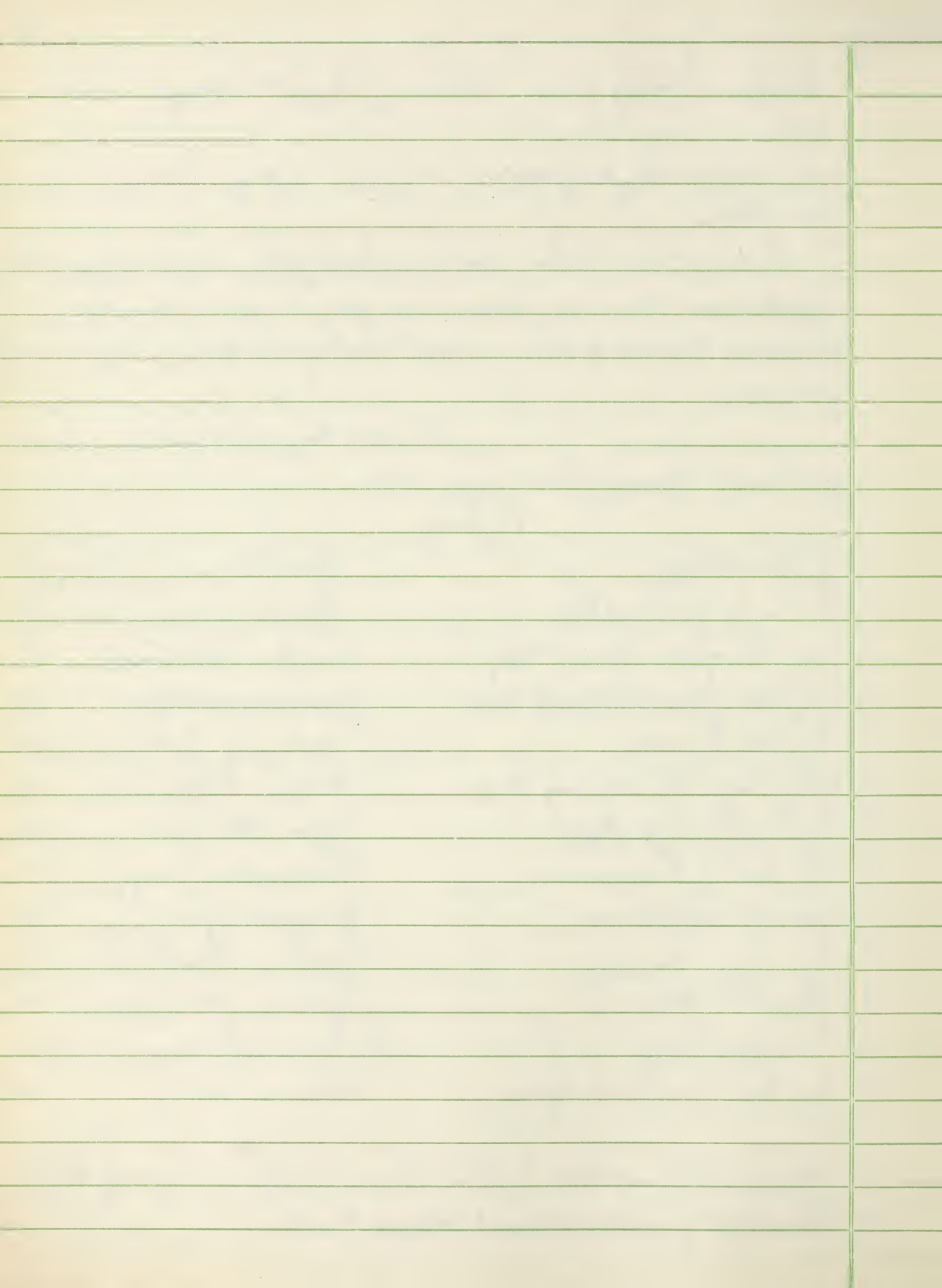
Elizabeth Hough Sechrist

York County, Pennsylvania, May, 1942.

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Seeley, Charles Sumner

*The Lost Canyon of the Toltecs: An account of strange adventures in Central America*

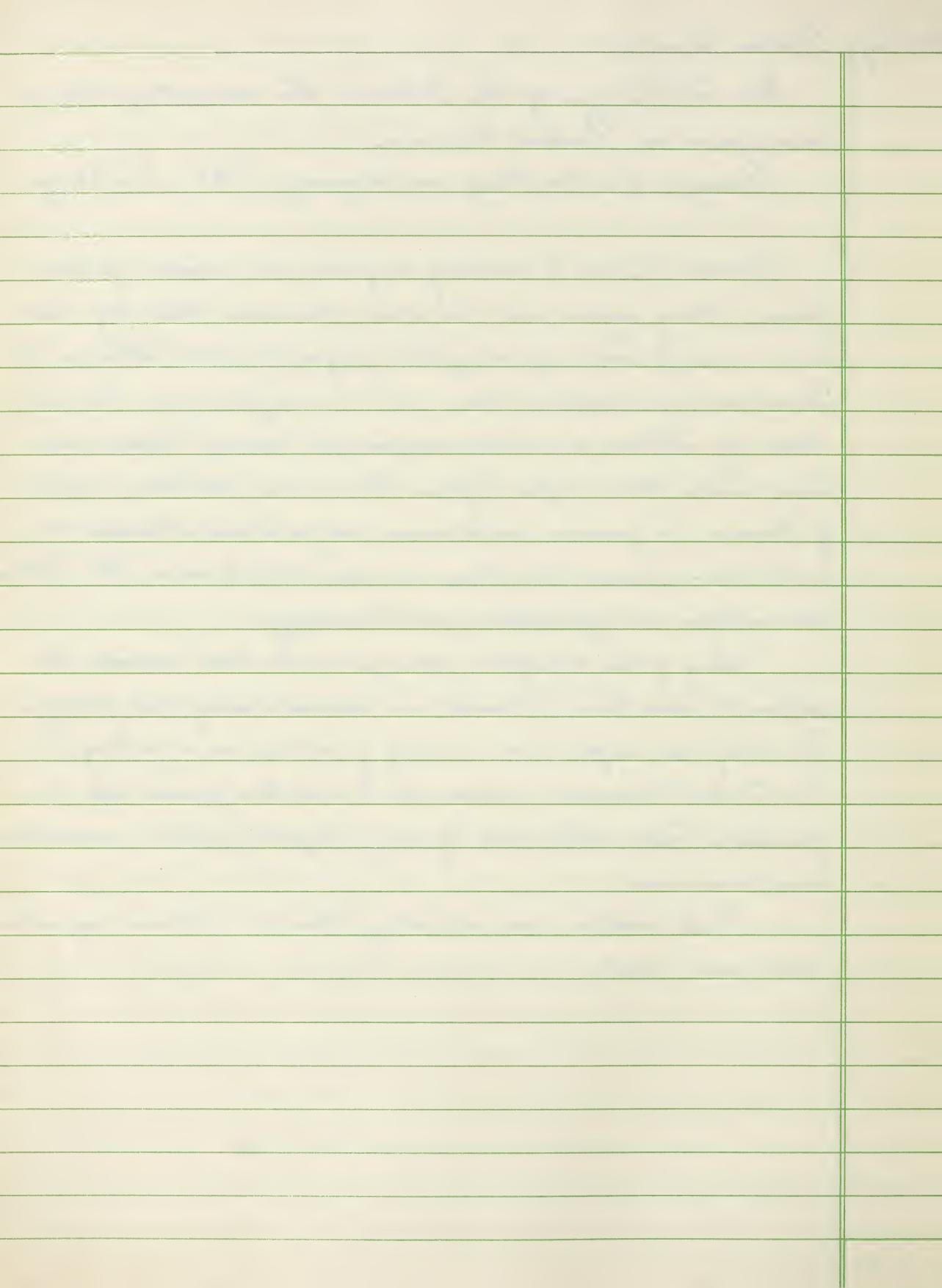
Chicago, A. C. McClurg and Company, 1893. 7-275 pp.

David Nelson, a mining engineer, in search of his fiancée Mary Taylor and her uncle, discovers that they have been misinformed regarding the geography of the Isthmus of Panama and locates them in a canyon where they are held by Toltecs, a noble and peaceful tribe of Indians who have with them a few Aztecs the more warlike natives of Mexico. A pioneer woodsman and a German biologist are with Nelson, and the three men are able to show the Toltecs advantages in agriculture and technology.

Many of the descriptive passages in the book indicate the author to have been interested in natural history and geology. The story is simple and mainly of interest as a portrayal of the Central American environment and the possible life of a primitive tribe untouched by any excepting their own customs and ceremonies.

Well written and interesting, this is not an important "lost race" novel.







On the back of the dedication page is printed the following: "A man obsessed is a man possessed by a demon".

Harry White extends his lunch hour beyond permitted time in order to arrange and engage in sexual liaisons with attractive women whom he approaches casually and overwhelms with his charm. It is the thrill of the possibility of the discovery by the husband which makes him choose married women, and the lack of responsibility to them because of the ties of their marriage.

He finds that sex relieves him of tensions which slow his engineering work, and is able to perform brilliantly if erratically because of the unsteadiness entailed by the sex liaisons. A junior vice-presidency is given a less brilliant man because of White's irresponsibility, which his superior attributes to his not being married and settled. White is jealous and says things derogatory to the new jvp while on a date with a woman secretary, who likes White and rejects his sexual advances but later marries him.

For awhile after marriage, White eschews other women, but becomes involved with a public relations department girl and then other women, despising himself for these lapses and unable to understand why they occur when he loves his wife so much. He displaces this obsession by stealing small items from offices in his building, then going farther afield to other buildings, throwing away these items after having experienced the thrill of stealing, much like a kleptomaniac. He then finds a further displacement in collecting plants for a new home, which he attends assiduously for awhile and then neglects, going back to women of lower and lower character. He then breaks into business premises to steal typewriters, calculators and other objects which he abandons near the scene of his burglaries. Jaded after these adventures, he comes to the conclusion that the thrill can be obtained only from murder, so he pushes a derelict in front of a subway train, then finally murders an honored cardinal and commits suicide by leaping to drown from a ferry. Even when under the care of a psychiatrist he cannot bring himself to confess what he is doing, and hopes that the psychoanalysis may uncover some cause from his childhood, which, when discovered, will enable the doctor to exorcise his "demon".

This book reminded me most of Karp's The Big Thrill & Feeling, but is a possibly exaggerated portrayal of gambling, drinking, drug addiction, or any other addiction or obsession which controls the mind of a man. Footner's A Self-Made Thief, Fame's The Witchery of an Oriental Lamp, and other books based on degeneration, support the thesis and suggest a common psychological cause. A depressing, morbid book, but important.



Gelby, Jr., Hubert

Last Exit to Brooklyn; New York, Grove Press, Inc. (# 4663), (1965), (1957, 1960, 1961, 1964, author) 311p. London, Calder & Boyars; Foreword to the post-trial edition by the Publishers; Introduction by Anthony Burgess; (1966), (Second Edition, September, 1968); xvii plus 234p.

The British hardcover edition has the additional material indicated which the paperback, published earlier, lacks.

This is a realistic novel, told in Brooklynes vernacular for the most part, which portrays the life of the slums in working or welfare homes, the sexual perversions, aggravations, miseries, the contest between man and wife, labor and capital, mankind and his urban environment, described on the back cover of the paperback as "A Profound Vision of Hell". I agree.

The graphic portrayal meant a trial of the book in England on the charge of obscenity, but I agree with the verdict that the book is not pornographic, though it treats of sexual conduct realistically.

The vernacular narration makes it sometimes difficult to read, but it is accurate and conveys the feelings of the characters as ordinary third-person narrative could not.

This is a sometimes disgusting book, but sociologically it is important. It sketches individual lives or incidents unmistakably. How such people can be rescued from the lives they live is a task that many like Oscar Lewis only could tackle, and they are denied the resources necessary.

Gelby offers no solutions. He merely depicts the problems.





Sellers, Con

Female Psycho Ward; Chicago, Novel Books, Inc. (First  
Printing, September, 1961) 127p.

This is a sensational novel, poorly written, telling from various points of view (patients, nurses, ward attendants, doctors) the life in a mental hospital, understaffed and with warped and perverted personalities. Karen Gregg, oversexed and having been broken in by her step-father, is not quite sure whether she pushed him to his death or whether he fell, but under the impetus of mercy-killing she does away with several patients.

It is doubtful that there is anything in this book of permanent worth.



Sellers, Con

Mr. Tomorrow; Aware Press, Inc., no place, (1974); Papillon Books (#OSF-502) 160p.

In a future world ruled by a totalitarian bureaucracy, Jon Adams is a mountain man untainted by "civilization" and determined to find his sister who was abducted in an aircar two years before. Captured after killing many guards, he is desired by lascivious women who can hardly believe his virginity, and hated by officials who resent his objection to their dominance.

Like Orwell's 1984, this is a portrayal of a future in which the individual has to fight for independence, and the state has final power.

The author portrays the degeneracy resulting from the efforts of those in power to satisfy their sexual cravings as the sole remaining reward of power, and the cruelty used to enslave the victims of their lust. Ultimately, the tale resorts to descriptions of sex and violence to make its points.

Although the message is clear, it is conveyed sensationally and unrealistically.

## 28TH WINNIPEG SCOUTING GROUP - CRESCENT FORT ROUGE UNITED CHURCH

The Cubs had a good year 1982-1983 under the leadership of Charlotte Mullen with the assistance of John Bradley. They took a few tours such as one to the Legislative Buildings, the Airport and went to one Hockey game in which the Warriors were playing. After the tour of the Airport they went to McDonald's for supper.

During the year and into the late Spring they went on the Adventure Trail, Snow Trek, and did winter camping for the first time in a long while. We took them to the Cub Camp at Gilwell in early June which ended the year for our Cubs.

In February during Baden-Powell Week we had the District Church Parade at Crescent Fort Rouge with a smaller number attending than last year, but still a success. Rev. Mac Watt was the Minister in charge of the service that Sunday and all the boys and leaders enjoyed what he had to say to them. We had one of our 'family' Pot Luck Suppers during the week as well.

This Fall John Bradley was not able to help Charlotte. Registration took place in September and we had six boys present, we had hoped for more, but there just aren't the boys of that age in the Fort Rouge District any more. In October we had a Pot Luck Supper which was a great success as always, the parents and the boy's families think it is great - it was our Hallowe'en Party as well.

During the winter of 1983 they played hockey a few times and went on nature walks. On one of the nature walks this Fall we had them collecting the different kinds of leaves they could find and now they have a book in which they are going to put all the different things they do during the year. The boys are doing a fair amount of work on Badges and Star Work.

Christmas time this year they went carolling out to Poseidon - Central Park Lodge with the Beavers from the 78th, 88th, 89th and Cubs from the 78th, a total of 50 boys plus a dozen or more leaders. Some of the boys were in costume for the scene in the stable at Bethlehem, shepherds, three Kings, Joseph, Mary and the 'Little Drummer Boy'. We were all pleased with the boys - they sang very well, and for the most part were well behaved. The lady in charge had cold drinks and candy for the boys afterwards. To finish off the year we had a Christmas Party for our boys at Charlotte's home.

Beavers - Last year had four boys but it made it very difficult to do much with so few. They attended all the District events with Charlotte who is District Commissioner for Beavers. In September when we had Registration only two boys registered so we sent them over to Crescentwood.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE 28TH. WINNIPEG SCOUT GROUP COMMITTEE

#### RECEIPTS:

Balance Forward, Dec. 31/82	\$ 46.74
Registration	126.00
Trees for Canada	42.00
Bank Interest	1.41
Total Receipts	\$ 196.15
Total Disbursements	176.09
Balance on Hand as of December 31, 1983	\$ 20.06

#### DISBURSEMENTS:

Supper - January 17/83	\$ 10.00
Registration (6 boys and 1 Leader)	129.50
District Assessment	10.50
Trees for Canada	25.20
Service Charge	.89
Total Disbursements	\$ 176.09

Jane Montgomery, Treasurer,  
28th Winnipeg Scout Group Committee



Sellings, Arthur

The Quy Effect; London, Science Fiction Book Club, 1968;  
(1966, Author) 141p.

This is a light science fiction novel about an eccentric inventor who finally after numerous failures succeeds in building an anti-gravity engine. The characterization is the main point of interest in this story, making it worthwhile. His problems with his son and grandson, and his romance with a good woman are engaging.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Seltzer, Charles Alden

Arizona Jim; New York, Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc.  
1939 279p.

This is a good western novel about a town under the rule of a rustler gun-man who is finally overcome by organization of the better elements under the guidance of the Reverend Jim Mc Donald and his sister Ellen, with the help of Carey, the newspaper publisher who loves Ellen, the saloon-keeper and chairman of the church trustees Blanchard, the banker Justus Castle and the Goernor of the State who is Castle's friend.

Martha Warren, 18 years old, is ostracised by her friends because her brother, two years older, is known to be the companion and friend of the rustler Flash Haddam. Young Ben has been wild because he is rebelling against his father, a rancher who makes him work hard but refuses him a decent wage, and he starts a girl named Eliza Ebbets on the road to prostitution. Ben gets in too deep with Haddam, and is threatened with exposure by Haddam through the crooked sheriff.

Reverend Jim takes Eliza to live with him and his sister when she publicly renounces her life of sin, and she tells Martha that Jim has made love to her. Circumstances have made Jim lie to Martha, and this confirmation of her doubts of him destroys her love for him. Haddam forces Jim to perform the wedding ceremony between himself and Martha in order to gain control of her ranch and cattle after her father dies of heart failure when Ben is hanged as a rustler. Jim saves Martha and finally discloses that the marriage was never binding because he was merely masquerading as a minister to assist the bishop in fighting Haddam, who had brow-beaten a previous minister.

The character-drawing and action is well-done, but the entire situation is too fantastic for credence; nevertheless, this is an interesting story.





Seltzer, Charles Alden

"Beau" Rand; Frontispiece by P. V. E. Ivory; New York,  
Grosset & Dunlap (1921, McClurg) 311p.

Rand, at the request of a dance hall girl of his acquaintance, adopts her baby boy Bud when the father, rancher Seddon abandons her. Rand falls in love with Seddon's daughter, and through fear of exposure, Seddon tries to influence his daughter against Rand. Compton, a handsome, magnetic rancher, who has deals with Seddon, tries to win Eleanor, but though she finds him attractive, she realizes that Rand is the better man.

In order to get Eleanor to visit his ranch, Rand teaches his adopted son to swear, so that Eleanor's influence will undo this trait. Compton tries to identify Rand as the leader of a gang of rustlers and stage-robbers, though he is himself the leader; Eleanor witnesses Compton holding up a stage and is able to expose him. Another dance hall girl, with whom Compton has been intimate, tries to get Rand to love her; failing, she plots with Compton to discredit Rand, then get a Mexican to make love to Eleanor.

Rand's father has been an outlaw killer, and Rand has had to fight his own tendency to kill, his mother's influence aiding him in the struggle. Though he has only wounded men when he could have killed ~~him~~ them, he is finally tried beyond control and kills Compton and two others.

This is a poor summary of a book which is a good western. There are some inconsistencies in Rand and in the plotting, but aside from Seltzer's mannerisms in narration, and an action-filled termination of the story which is a trifle forced, and the discovery that two men supposedly killed will survive to aid the happy ending, this is one of Seltzer's better books.



Seltzer, Charles Alden

The Boss of the Lazy Y; Illustrations by J. Allen St.  
John; New York, Grosset & Dunlap (1915, McClurg) 347p.

Calumet Marston returns to his home ranch on impulse, to learn later that it had come to him on the day of his father's death. He had no love for either his father or his mother; had left home at 15 after beatings and cruelty; and he had become a loner, his hand against everyman's.

He finds Betty Clayton and her grandfather and brother in possession, and learns that his father had wished to give her the ranch and \$20,000, but she had refused them. After becoming attracted to Betty, he learns that she is to be his mentor and judge, on behalf of his father, and that her decisions are to govern his inheritance.

Neighboring ranchers, the Taggarts, are inimical; Cal bests the son on several occasions, and finally kills him when he forces his attentions on Betty. Cal's father had been friendly with the older Taggart in their younger days, and had stolen an idol from some Toltecs with the help of one of their women who averred love for him; and had drawn a sketch to show where the idol was buried on the Lazy Y.

Despite unwarranted suspicions that Betty was seeing the younger Taggart (she was actually seeing the sheriff, a friend of Cal's father who had promised to look out for her, Cal falls in love with her, and shares her relief when one of the Toltecs recovers the idol and makes away with it.

The book ends with the killing of the Taggarts by the Toltec, and Betty and Cal in love.

This is less than average of Seltzer's books.





Seltzer, Charles Alden

Brass Commandments; Frontispiece by Modest Stein; New York & London, The Century Co., 1923 (1922, Frank A. Munsey Company) 301p.

Stephen Lannon is quite similar to Calumet Marston, The Boss of the Lazy Y, a wild, passionate youngster who has by years of absence from the west gained in self-control, but who reverts to violence when back in his western environment and faced with the necessity of enforcing law against rustlers and gunmen.

He falls in love with Glory Stowe, daughter of the hotel proprietor, whose beauty makes her the target of most men who see her, and many of whom treat her as an available female. Devake and Campan, rustlers, pursue her; Lannon makes the mistake of permitting her, in ignorance of his identity, to disclose her hero-worship of him on the basis of his original reputation as a wild gunman; and his courteous and respectful treatment of her aristocratic rival Ellen Bosworth arouses her jealousy and resentment. Gloria comes to see that Ellen is sophisticated and shallow in spite of her social graces, but befriends her in spite of Ellen's having misrepresented Flash Lannon's comments concerning Glory.

Campan is the chief enemy, at first cowed by Lannon, but then determined to defeat him. Campan kidnaps the two girls and abandons them in the desert when a dry water-hole is unexpectedly found; Lannon trails him and finds him dead of thirst. Ellen surrenders Lannon to Gloria.

This is about average for Seltzer, the early part of the book being superior to the last part.



Seltzer, Charles Alden

The Range Riders; Illustrated by Clarence Rowe; Toronto,  
The Musson Book Company Limited (1911 Outing Publishing Co.)  
310p.

Contents

1. The Double Cross	11
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3. The Kid and the Cowboys	81
4. The Messenger from Conejos	109
5. A Tragedy on Little Elk	137
6. The Man Who Rode "Purgatory"	171
7. The Execution of Lanky	201
8. The Sixteenth Man	221
9. The Nester on Carrizo	247
10. The Prince of the Z O	283

This book is a series of connected short stories, the characters and incidents carried over from one to another. The construction of the stories is excellent, but Seltzer's subterfuges of aliases to conceal his characters and their motives is either a device to persuade his readers that they are perspicacious, or ineffective. His dialogue by indirection is characteristic, and his success in these short stories is rather a surprise in view of his apparent dedication later to the novel.

Certainly this book is an accomplishment for a beginning writer, much better than I had anticipated, and worth keeping. I have, however, let it go to Alois Paulus.





Sender, Ramon J.

The Affable Hangman; Translated by Florence Hall; London,  
Jonathan Cape (1954) 336p.  
London, Alvin Redman (1964) (1963, Las Americas Publishing  
Company) 318p.

The bastard son of a nobleman, Ramiro falls in love with the daughter of an apothecary, who dies when an embrace of theirs upsets jars containing a poison, and the daughter fails to carefully replace the contents. Ramiro blames himself for the death, and in spite of the daughter's health and looks being spoiled by the same poison, wishes to marry her.

He becomes a painter, and paints this girl provocatively in a mural. His expertise enables him to become friendly with an artist in Madrid, whom he seeks to catalogue the artworks in his ancestor (or father) the Duke's estate, and attracts the attention of an Argentine woman who is beautiful but decadent, devoted to sex, drink and drugs, and who is jealously befriended by a lesbian. A truck driver introduces him to a brothel where he falls in love with a prostitute whom he wishes to marry, and where his resemblance to an old customer startles the madam into befriending him.

Becoming involved with anarchists who rob a bank for the sake of their idealistic political aims, Ramiro escapes involvement, but comes under police suspicion; gets acquainted with a band of gypsies, an old woman among whom has correctly predicted in detail the fate of a man, and although he seeks to live as an observer rather than a partaker of life, becomes a soldier and joins in atrocities which are senseless. Unable to find any good in human existence, he applies for the job of hangman, marries the old hangman's daughter and has two children by her before his Duke recognizes him as his heir, at which point the book closes.

The fantasy elements involved are a girl who has betrayed her sister's husband to the soldiers who kill him and is driven mad by her guilt, seeing ghosts; the gipsy's precognitive power and the dreams and drug-hallucinations of Ramiro. Although not primarily fantasy, many books have been classified thus whose fantasy elements are slighter.

This is a philosophical novel.



Server, Lee

Danger is my business: An Illustrated History of the Fabulous Pulp Magazines; San Francisco, Chronicle Books; (1993, Lee Server 144p.

This is an excellent survey of the entire pulp magazine field from 1896-1953. Ray lent me his copy.

I was sorry to learn the Harry Bates after editing and writing excellent stories died a pauper; that Arthur J. Burks became a "psychic reader", and that Norbert Davis committed suicide at 40. that Lester Dent was Maxwell Grant of Doc Savage fame, that Walter Gibson wrote the Shadow novels. Giving due credit to Hugo Gernsback, he mentions the poor or non-payment reputation Hugo deserved.

There is much interesting incidental information provided, and I should watch for a copy of this book for reference.

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The House of Fear: A Novel; New York, Dodd, Mead & Company, 1927 408pp.

Peter MacBeth, a man in his 'fifties, wealthy, a soldier of fortune, befriends L'Irlandaise, an orphan who agrees to accompany him on tour to evade three Paris apaches. They find an ancient mansion which is reputedly haunted; learn of murders which have occurred there; and are fascinated into staying to learn the answer to the mystery.

They are followed by the apaches who come to their deaths violently in and near the mansion. An aristocratic neighbor, Hector de Marsac, falls in love with Pascaline, as L'Irlandaise is known; but she was married for protection to an Italian criminal, Spirelli, who had controlled the gang of apaches, but after his release from prison had become a detective of the Surete. Spirelli has been badly scarred in war, and has great mesmeric power; but truly loves the wife whose marriage has never been consummated. Pascaline believes her obligation to MacBeth binds her to love him and marry him if he will consent; but MacBeth is old enough to be her father, is a cardiac, and acts as her "uncle".

The mystery is finally resolved by de Marsac who admits that he has been able to obtain mesmeric control over his idiot brother, and forces the idiot to kill. He has even prepared a wolf-skin garment with electric eyes to enable the idiot to disguise himself as a werewolf, and has imbued the idiot with a craving for blood of his victims. de Marsac forces his mistress to commit suicide, but fears her father who is a religious maniac, buries his mistress in the courtyard of his ancestor Gilles de Rais, whom he resembles; and a monk who is writing a biography of de Rais discovers the body and suspects de Marsac of the crimes of his ancestor. de Marsac finally confesses his crimes, and commits suicide.

This is a melodramatic novel of mystery, the first half of which is obviously overwhelmed by the second. The killing of the apaches puts the finishing touches to whatever plot the author may have had in mind when beginning the story: from that point the main story begins, and apart from the sinister figure of Spirelli; the heroine; and MacBeth, there is little to connect the two stories.

Spirelli's love for his wife finally wins her from de Marsac, and all ends happily for him, though it may have been Service's original intention to have Spirelli the villain. I am convinced, however, that Service completely changed his mind half-way through the book, and simply decided that he would cash in on the labor to which he had gone in writing it by permitting what he had written to remain, instead of revising it to agree with the latter half of the book.

It belongs in a fantasy library, but is not important excepting to a completist collector on the "werewolf" and "mesmeric power" themes.



The Master of the Microbe: A Fantastic Romance; New York, N. Y. & Newark, N. J., Barse & Hopkins (1926); 424pp

A bacteriologist or microbiologist produces a purple plague, and has also manufactured a serum which will cure people contracting the plague. A young American stumbles on the secret, and later discovers that his uncle is manoeuvring to control it. Amid melodramatic events in the slums of Paris and vicinity, the struggle works itself to a climax; many of the characters are playing dual roles; danger and intrigue complicate the story.

As a sensational novel, this story could have enjoyed a success; but it is a failure as fantasy though it definitely belongs in the fantasy field.

Mystery and adventure are the strong elements of the story.





Serling, Rod

From the Twilight Zone; Garden City, New York, Nelson  
Doubleday, Inc. (1960, 1961, 1962, Serling) 314p.

Contents

1. The Mighty Casey	1
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3. Where Is Everybody?	51
4. The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street	75
5. Walking Distance	95
6. The Whole Truth	115
7. The Lonely	141
8. Dust	169
9. The Midnight Sun	187
10. Mr. Dingle, the Strong	205
11. The Odyssey of Flight 33	227
12. The Big, Tall Wish	247
13. The Rip Van Winkle Caper	269
14. The Shelter	291

Jason Pascoe wants this book, so I have copies the list  
of Contents in case the paperback edition is not complete.  
I have not read any of these stories.



Serling, Rod

The Season to be Wary; Boston/Toronto, Little, Brown and Company (1967) 276p.

Contents

1. The Escape Route	1
2. Color Scheme	97
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1. Joseph Strobe, Nazi, in Buenos Aires, is alerted by the capture of Adolf Eichmann to the fact that the world has not forgotten him and his kind. Gruber, an aristocrat also fugitive, warns him, and himself commits suicide. Gruber's wife, a Jewess who loves him, rejects Strobe's desperate plea for help. Lanser, a bartender who has maimed his satellite, a Pole named Zamorski, is murdered by Zamorski, who submits to being killed by Strobe, having accomplished his revenge. Strobe identifies himself with a fisherman in a boat in a picture in a museum; in a desperate effort to escape being hunted down he wills himself into the picture. However, the museum people have moved the fisherman's picture, placing in its spot the scene from a concentration camp; and are subjected to the cries of anguish which Strobe makes from his suffering in the new picture.

2. An agitator against the blacks, after stirring a mob to the point where they set fire to the home of a black minister, whose four-year-old girl perishes in the blaze, finds himself cursed with a black skin, and visualizes the minister as white. He is subjected to the beatings and ostracism of the black race, and is ultimately dragged to death behind a car driven by white people. The story was suggested to Serling by Sammy Davis, Jr., a friend of Serling's to whom the book is dedicated.

3. A wealthy woman, blind from birth, who manouvers people by blackmail, forces her eye doctor to get a subject to donate his eyesight to her, even though she is warned it will serve her for only twelve hours. A fight promoter gets a punch-drunk relic of the ring, who has been punished on a rape charge years before when a nymphomaniac had seduced him, to the woman's home on the pretext of a job; the woman cries rape, Indian Charlie panics and agrees to donate his sight; but cannot go through with the agreement so hangs himself. The promoter, being in fear of death because of a debt to a gang leader, offers his own eyesight. The woman, after the operation, awakens to darkness which, unknown to her, is due to an electrical blackout; panicking she breaks a window and falls to her death from it, gaining eyesight to see the sun rising as she falls.

All except the last are fantasy, and the last is horror so the book qualifies as a whole for a fantasy collection. But these stories are all concerned with the seamier side of life, and have no appeal for me.

I will sell this book to Jason Pascoe.





Seth, Ronald

In the Name of the Devil; New York, Walker and Company,  
(1969, author); Bibliography; Index 175p.

Mainly devoted to an analysis of ten trials of witches in Scotland, this book is sceptical of the reality of the phenomena confessed to under torture by those convicted.

A few years ago I read a novel based on the case of Major Weir and this book devotes Chapter 9 to information beyond that I remember from the novel.

I find it curious that Seth accepts unquestioningly the confession of "The Bargarran Impostor" in Chapter 10 which seems to explain what appears to be a case of possession, when he rejects the confessions of so many witches. This seems to confirm what I have noticed in many sceptical books: any apparently rationalistic explanation is readily accepted without any real attempt to do a careful scientific exploration of the facts.

That the horrifying cruelty of people persecuting witches in Scotland exceeded that in England appears certain. Superstition and Calvinistic dogma appear to have enhanced the fear of people.

The original records of these cases are even now fragmentary so this book is a useful reference to the trials.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
January 18, 1998

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**FirstCity Trust**

Severn, Bill

Magic and Magicians; Illustrated by Sgt. Yukio Tashiro;  
New York, David McKay Company, Inc. (1958, author; Index; 178p.

This is a well-written introductory survey of stage magic, its origins, biographical sketches of Robert Houdin, Herrmann, Kellar, Houdini and Thurston, more modern masters, the World of Magic (fan clubs and professional), and I read up to page 150 only, because the tricks themselves do not interest me.

Herrmann apparently investigated mediums ahead of Houdini but details are lacking.

This is a good book of its kind, but lacks specific appeal in my areas of interest, so I shall likely let Gene Shelley have it.

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**FirstCity Trust**



Severy, Melvin L.

The Darrow Enigma; Illustrated by C. D. Williams;  
Toronto, The Copp, Clark Company, Limited, 1904 341p.

This is one of those old-fashioned murder mysteries so inherently improbable and complicated as to baffle belief in its ever occurring.

A retired East Indian officer is murdered, and the plot indicates that his murder was intended by two different men for different reasons, one revenge, the other financial gain.

Told in the first person by a doctor representing the ubiquitous "Watson", the detective is a lawyer who has become a research chemist, and whose expertise in the scientific field enables him to investigate the poison used and the murder method. The narrative style and dialogue are stilted and unnatural, but the plot complications and a bit of humor are enough to keep up the reader's interest.

The fantasy elements are East Indian fakirism and occult power; and hypnotic phenomena. These are adequate to place the novel as fantasy, though it is primarily a murder mystery.

Although not important, it is a good example of the type of melodramatic mystery now almost a thing of the past.



Seymour, St. John D., and Neligan, Harry L.

True Irish Ghost Stories; Dublin, Allen Figgis Ltd,  
1969; Index 299p.

Gordon Jones presented this book to me while Muriel and I were in Souris during my sister Mary's illness with cancer.

It is a kind of sequel to Seymour's earlier book Irish Witchcraft and Demonology which is already in my collection.

Although most of the tales and stories are alleged to be factual and authentically vouched for, they often read like folklore. Some, however, are taken from the records of the British and American Societies for Psychical Research, and Barrett's Psychical Research is quoted.

Of its kind, this is an important reference book.

Going through my books on April 25, 1987, I discovered that I had a hardcover edition, with an introduction by Michael Lord which I read today. This confirms my opinion of the importance of the unsophisticated accounts of ghostly phenomena narrated.

New York, Causeway Books, (1974)

274p.

### CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE:

The Centennial Anniversary Committee met regularly once a month in 1983 to co-ordinate the events of our Centennial week-end, November 11-13, 1983. Our last meeting, with final reports from members, was held on January 7, 1984.

We feel that, taken in its entirety, the celebration was an outstanding success. Although there were minor flaws, delays or disappointments in certain planned events, the final assessment, both of Members of the Congregation and of our many visitors seemed to be that it was a memorable and exciting week-end, within the high tradition of special anniversaries in our Church.

A note about specific projects and events:

1. The Yard and Basement Sale, held in May and ably convened by Pat Barth, raised just under \$2,000 for our Anniversary celebrations. We thank her and her helpers for this worthwhile effort.

2. The Book of Congregational Pictures, supervised by Jerry Prud'homme, required many hours of phoning (with help of Lorraine Mann), organizing, and the able services of photographer, Tim Evans. The finished book has a high percentage of our church families included, is an invaluable help in remembering names and phone numbers, and is very handsome. There are a few extra copies available in the Church Office at the cost price of \$8.00 for those who may wish to purchase an additional copy, or who did not receive a copy. We thank both Jerry Prud'homme and Tim Evans for their contribution to our Centenary.

3. The Historic Book, 'A Century of Caring' which summarizes the entire one hundred year history of the Congregation, with special write-ups on all church organizations and many historical pictures, was guided in its production by Mildred Hamilton who researched and wrote much of the material, with invaluable assistance from Doris Smith, Isobel Scurfield and Helen Dyker, Helen Norrie who helped with editing, and Erma Hamilton, who spent hours typing the manuscript. We also want to thank Derksen Printers, for their assistance and careful work, and for producing the finished book in time for our Centennial Celebrations. This book is a historic and readable account that belongs in every home in our Congregation. We hope that families will purchase at least one copy. They are available in the Gift Shop, or in the Church Office at \$8.00.

4. Publicity for our Centennial was ably handled by Laureen Bulman who distributed information about our event to 46 other United Churches, to the head offices of many other major denominations, to the Observer, the Free Press, and to other local media. She also searched out pictures of the Ministers during the second fifty years and had them framed for hanging in the Vestibule of the Church. In addition, Laureen was responsible for our beautiful Anniversary Dinner Programs, which received many favourable comments.

5. Correspondence for the week-end was conscientiously attended to by Jane Montgomerie, Margaret Kellas, and Alvin Heaney. Two mailings were sent out to over two hundred former Members and friends of the Congregation. The excellent turn-out at all the events was proof of the success of their efforts, with a large number of former Y.P.U. and Choir Members in particular. Jane also looked after tickets to the Anniversary Banquet, a total of 316 tickets plus 22 complimentary tickets, and kept track of donations and money received for roses. We appreciate her efforts and those of her Committee.

Shaffer, Ivan

The Stock Promotion Business: The inside story of Canadian mining deals and the people behind them; Toronto and Montreal, McClelland and Stewart Limited (1967) 193p.

Shaffer is a public relations man who has also worked for mining stock promoters. He was also a newspaperman. He writes like a "smart alec", gives cases alleged to be factual, but without true names; and he may be right about the manoeuvring that goes on in the stock market. However, there is very little in the book which can be used as a clue to investing; in fact, Shaffer says that anyone is ahead who stays out of the mining stock market.

This is a cynical book.





Sharp, Margery

The Stone of Chastity; Boston, Little, Brown and Company,  
1940; (1940, author) 280p.

A Norse legend of the Stone of Chastity is repeated in a rural English village, by a stone in a shallow stream. A Professor determines to carry out a scientific investigation to determine whether the stone has the ability to determine the chastity of the women using it to step across the stream and circulates a petition among the village women, leaders of whom are outraged by the experiment which questions their virtue. The author's attitude is pretty cynical on the point, instances being given that virginity is exceptional.

The principal character is the professor's amatory nephew who falls in love with every pretty woman, even a model whose frank sensuousness makes it inevitable that she will fail the stone's test. The climax occurs when the nephew's mother also fails the test, and she confesses that her husband had committed bigamy so that her son was illegitimate. The stone reflects that he does not feel less affectionate towards the memory of his father: in fact, he feels warmer at this sign of his father's similarity to his own feelings towards flighty women.

This is light, amusing, sophisticated fiction, written well.

Toronto, Wm. Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. (#215), (1945) 192p.

New York, Avon Publications, Inc. (#624), (3rd Ptg, January, 1955), (June, 1948, January, 1949), (1940, author) 173p.

Armed Services Edition (#T-12), (1940) 256p.



# 1982 ALL-CANADA CONVENTION

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

## REGISTRATION FORM EXPLANATION

This year there is a Women's Retreat prior to the Convention itself. The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is available Tuesday night for those wishing to arrive early for this event.

A. Registration ... We hope you will find this self explanatory. Please note separate registration for Encounter Groups. There is no Convention registration fee for children under eleven years. (See Day Care).

B. Accomodation... The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is passing along the \$8.00 per person bedding charge, in which they receive no profit. This bedding is for the entire time, regardless of how long you stay.

Children twelve years and under who stay with adults, will be provided with a mattress at one half the \$4.50 adult price... i.e. \$2.25 per night and their linen is \$8.00

C. Meals... For catering purposes, the Mennonite Brethren Bible College must have an accurate count in advance of the Convention.

You will note there is no supper being served on Saturday at the Convention site. The cafeteria will be closed on Sunday morning. Home Street church will be providing a light complimentary lunch following the Sunday morning worship service.

For children under twelve, all meals are half adult price, with exception of those three years and under, whose meals are free.

The C.C.W.F. luncheon has been combined with the C.C.M.F. luncheon because of our special speaker, Dr. Jean Woolfolk.

D. Child Care.... The cost of \$4.00 per day includes two snacks and a noon meal, and the childs care after breakfast until 5.00 p.m.

Chavelson, Mel

The Great Houdinis: A Vaudeville; London, W. H. Allen  
& Co. Ltd. (Star Book #39557), (1977) 175p.  
Greenwich, Connecticut, Fawcett Publications, Inc.,  
(Crest Book #23043), (1976, Melville Chavelson) 223p.

Although fictionized, this seems to me to be a fairly well researched depiction of the Houdini family and several episodes in the life of the magician, concentrating in the first part of the book on his escapes, and in the latter part on his interest in spiritualism and his relationship with Conan Doyle. There are sufficient unexplained incidents in the early and later parts of the book to place this in the fantasy category of fiction, and also in the associational literature of psychical research.

Houdini's fixation on his mother, his mental breakdown after her death, and the difficulties which the fixation imposed on his wife and his marital relationship, are depicted quite well, if sardonically and with humor.

This book is well worth retaining for reference.





Shaw, Bernard

Play.

Saint Joan; Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England, Penguin Books (#565), (1946), (1923, 1924) 189p.

The Preface indicates that Shaw studied Joan's life in detail, and that he sees her voices as auditory hallucinations projected from her own mind. I find this unacceptable; how would this explain an uneducated girl's grasp of military and social and historical events and enable her to command the admiration and respect of leaders and kings who were her intellectual superiors?

Although the events Shaw selects for the scenes of his play are intended to support his rationalistic explanation of Joan's life, and he sees her trial as fair in view of the world "knowledge" of her time, when heresy consisted of the individual following his own course independently of the dogma of the Church, there is no doubt of Joan's martyrdom, and the Church's attribution of miracles to her canonization.

This book is worth study.

Reprinted five times up to 1952.

Baltimore, Maryland, Penguin Books (#PL3), (April, 1951, reprinted eight times up to 1963) 159p.

St. Joan; with an Introduction and notes by A. C. Ward; London, Longmans, Green and Co., in association with Constable and Co Ltd.; 11th impression, 1966 208p.

(This edition is superior because of the additional material by A. C. Ward.)

Centennial Anniversary Committee, continued:

6. Centennial Plates and Mugs and Memorial Roses were looked after by Anne Crossi. At present there are only a few plates, plus approximately 98 mugs remaining. These will be sold in the Show Case Gift Shop and at the Spring Tea. All expenses have now been covered and further sales are completely profit. The Memorial Roses were a huge success, with \$1,225 being received for a total of 237 names. Academy Florists supplied the 100 roses in four bouquets. The names were typed on white satin ribbon by Florence Konzelman. The roses provided a beautiful and fitting display at the front of the church on Anniversary Sunday. Following the Services, the bouquets were divided and the roses delivered to shut-in Members of the Congregation along with special bulletins from the two Sunday Services.

7. Friday Evening events were co-ordinated by Emily Harasen. A children's Puppet Show, a sensitive Slide Presentation by Dora Bonner on the life of the Church through the years, a Display of historical pictures, and the fellowship of coffee and doughnuts provided a warm and welcoming start to our week-end. We thank Emily, Jane Burpee who produced the Puppet Show, and Circle 4 who served the doughnuts, and all those who contributed to the evening's success.

8. The Historical Display and Slide-Presentation require special mention. Organized by Dora Bonner, with many of the pictures and most of the slides Dora's own excellent photography, these were outstanding parts of our celebration. We hope to have Dora repeat the slide presentation at the social evening some time this Spring, for those who didn't see it. We also hope that the display of historical pictures will become a permanent part of our Church Archives. We appreciate the many hours of work that taking, sorting and mounting these pictures represents. Special thanks are expressed to Laureen Bulman, Erma and Mildred Hamilton and Doris Smith for their capable assistance and many hours spent in mounting and setting up the Pictorial and Historical Displays, and to John Bulman for his generous gift of coloured photos of several recent events he has expertly recorded for us.

9. The Saturday Morning Breakfast was organized by the men of the Congregation, with special thanks to Jerry Prud'homme. Although the men of the Congregation learned what the women have been trying to tell them for a long time--that you can't plug in a toaster, two coffee-pots and an electric fry pan all at the same time--or sometimes even separately--the breakfast was delicious, and, again, a good fellowship time was enjoyed by all.

10. Gala Banquet and Dance - held in the Fort Garry Hotel and organized by Donna Fillingham and Sue Cowtan, with John Bulman acting as M.C. and with entertainment by our own talented Choir Members augmented by several other Members of the Congregation, this was indeed a very special event. The delicious dinner, the appropriate speeches by all levels of government (Letter from the Prime Minister, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, greetings from the Premier by the MLA for The Pas, Manitoba, greetings from the City of Winnipeg and presentation of a special bronze plaque for the Church from Mayor William Norrie), the beautifully handled Agape Table, led by our minister, Dr. Kenneth David Howlett, and the outstanding historical skit, all combined to make this a truly memorable evening. The evening concluded with dancing--and despite all earlier festivities, many couples took advantage of the music to relax and end a special occasion.

11. The Church Services on Sunday, November 13, jointly planned by the minister and participating clergy, the Worship Committee, the Director of Music and the Centennial Chairman, Helen Norrie, were both enlightening and exciting.

Shaw, Bob

Orbitsville; London, Victor Gollancz Ltd, 1975; (1975,  
Shaw) 224p.

Fleeing the wrath of despotic ruler Elizabeth whose son was accidentally killed while in his care, Vance Garamond, A space ship commander, discovers a Dyson sphere of immense extension in an unexplored region of the universe, and is too famous to allow the ruler to achieve his punishment. While exploring, she takes his wife and son as guests, and fearing for their safety he seeks to rescue them, which he does successfully.

Much of the action involves a space journey against obstacles and the encounter with an alien race in the sphere. The scope of the novel is not supported by an adequate story, and I feel that it is not worth another reading.

The author appears to be scientifically educated, and writes well.

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C E L E B R A T I N G  
THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY  
— 1962-1987 —  
LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE  
Ç A S E F Ê T E !

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**FirstCity Trust**

Shaw, Eva

Divining the Future: Prognostication from Astrology to Zomancy; New York, Gramercy Books, (1995, author); Index 293p.

I read only special headings in this reference book which is useful by alphabetical order and index. The author made use of a limited bibliography which could have been made accessible by a numbered list rather than being reprinted endlessly at the end of each short article. However, trustworthy and doubtful references are mentioned and this book is a handy reference.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
October 31, 2002





CUSTOMER  
CENTRE

MANITOBA

Shaw, S. Irwin ( (D.M.D.)

Hypnotism Can Help; Philadelphia, David McKay Company,  
(1948, author; Appendix; Bibliography 213p.

This is the first book I have seen on the subject written by a dentist. Shaw read about it at an early age, used it on friends and when he became a dentist practised it as an avocation without making any charge for his services. He appears to have become an expert hypnotist, and almost every chapter in this book is a case history of his successes and failures.

Shaw's altruistic view and his modest descriptions of very helpful work make this book a non-technical and human interest introduction to the subject. He treated health and psychological problems, but appears to have had no interest in the supernormal aspects of hypnotism.

Shaw demonstrates how useful hypnosis can be to suffering humanity.

Chester D. Cuthbert

May 7, 2001



CUSTOMER  
CENTRE

MANITOBA

Shaw, Sam

Ballantine Books presents Marilyn Monroe as The Girl;  
Photographs by Sam Shaw; Introduction by George Axelrod (1955,  
Shaw) about 140p.

These are photographs taken during the filming of "The Seven Year Itch", and are mainly informal poses of Marilyn taken of trial shots or among her home surroundings. There is little text; merely enough to suggest the scene and meaning of the poses.

Book taken by Doug Gulipa.





Shaylor, Joseph

Symposium

The Pleasures of Bookland, with an Introduction by Andrew Lang; Frontispiece; London, Truslove & Hanson Limited (no date); Index 160p.

An expanded and re-arranged edition of the author's The Pleasures of Literature and the Solace of Books, this is an anthology of comments on the value of books and study confirming my opinion that most social intercourse is a waste of time. Books convey a higher return for the time spent.

This is, of course, the kind of book which should be on the shelves of any bookshop, to encourage people to appreciate literature.



Sheckley, Robert

The Game of X; New York, Dell Publishing Co., Inc. (1965,  
author) 159p.

This novel is a spoof of the category, told in the first person by an unemployed and broke American who is made to assume the fake identity of a master sleuth. Most of the action is in chases through Venice and vicinity, and the story tells more of geography than espionage.

I have been reading parapsychology and noticed that this book had been read recently by my wife Muriel. As I had never read anything by the author who is highly rated in the science fiction field, I used the book as a sample of his writing. I'm not impressed. There are touches of humor, but most action is violent and tongue-in-cheek.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
August 27, 2002



# CUSTOMER CENTRE

MANITOBA

Sheldon, Sidney

If Tomorrow Comes; New York, William Morrow and Company,  
Inc., (1985, Author) 404p.

A trust company computer operator, made pregnant by a society man who promises to marry her, is abandoned by him when her mother commits suicide and she is arrested when she accidentally kills one of the men who swindled her mother. Imprisoned, she learns that she must deal with gang rape by the women whose main interest is sex; saving the daughter of the warden from drowning, she is pardoned; avenges herself on her mother's enemies, becomes an adventuress, a woman Robin Hood who steals from the rich because her record makes it impossible to earn a living legitimately.

The balance of the book details the various swindles and burglaries in which she engages. She finds in an attractive man a rival who outwits her in several schemes, falls in love with him, they engage in a final scheme which is likely to lead to their arrest, since they are tracked by an American insurance investigator who is insane because of murdering his mother and dedicated to imprisoning women. Tricking the cops they flee successfully, having achieved a fortune. The last page of the book indicates there may be a sequel since the girl identifies a wealthy operator whose reputation they know but whom they have never met.

The pace of this novel is like that of Harold Robbins, and it makes for rapid reading. Oppenheim's Anna the Adventuress comes to mind as a similar kind of book; the international society scene is also reminiscent of Oppenheim.

The protagonist is not, for me, a sympathetic character, and there are inconsistencies because of the failure of the author to detail the steps leading from her being a victim to a smart, cool schemer and operator.

This is a sensational novel, without depth.





sheldon, sidney

The Naked Face; New York, Dell Publishing Co. Inc.;  
41st Ptg., November, 1982; August, 1975; 1970, author 252p.

Although marketed as fiction, a suspense novel, this is an excellently plotted and written murder mystery, equivalent to a top Jim Thompson novel of the same category.

A psychoanalyst has his patient and his receptionist murdered under circumstances so mysterious that he begins to wonder if, when he can discover no motive, he is himself paranoid in thinking he may be the intended victim. Closely and carefully watched by the two detectives investigating the case, he consults the tape recorded records of his patients to see if they reveal any clues to the assassins menacing him and these merely raise suspicion against several innocent people. Finally his knowledge of psychology enables him to predict the kind of personality possessed by the killer, and he learns that a patient with whom he has fallen in love is the wife of a jealous and dominant mafia leader, merciless, wealthy, and guiding the actions of the mob aiming at his death because of the possible disclosure of secrets by the wife, and the alienation of affections from the husband.

I cannot decide whether the author's knowledge of insanity and mental illness is textbook-learned or practical, but the characters depicted seem real, and their problems also.

The popularity of this novel is deserved, but it rates as a thriller more than as a novel.

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|                                                |          | Family - (all children must be under 21 years of age) |         |

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Name & Ages of Children \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE DROP OFF, OR MAIL YOUR APPLICATION TO UNICITY RAQUET CLUB, 1500 TAYLOR AVE., WINNIPEG, MB. R3N 1Y1

Sheldon-Williams, Miles

The Power of Ula; Frontispiece; London, Ward Lock & Co  
Limited, 1906 320p.

This is a hackneyed lost race fantasy, about three Englishmen bound to an evil Amazonian Princess by her hypnotic spell which is reinforced by a magic ring whose clasp cannot be removed in two cases excepting by cutting off the fingers and in a third by its bearer going mad.

Told in antiquated language and with the British "Old Boy" comradeship by one of the three men who takes small part in the story apart from its telling, this relates the rivalry of the Queen and the Princess. The latter has gone to England to obtain modern arms, expecting to use these to overthrow the Queen and usurp the throne. Part of these arms are recovered by the Queen's allies and used against the evil Princess Ula, who would have won excepting for the intervention of a lightning bolt which kills Ula and destroys her temple.

Although this novel qualifies as lost race fantasy, and mentions Atlantis, the Amazon women succumb to the power of men, and the novel is not important excepting as an example of its kind.



REGISTRATION FORM  
JUNIOR & SENIOR  
ENCOUNTER 1982

Sunday Aug. 8 -- Saturday Aug. 14, 1982

Name:-----

Address:-----  
-----

Telephone No.----- Age:-----

I. Check One - School Grade as of September 1982

7--- 8--- 9--- 10--- 11--- 12--- 12+ ---

II. Check One:

----- A. I will participate all week at \$70.00  
(includes Friday boat trip)

OR

----- B. I will participate part of the week - check which days:  
Sun--- Mon--- Tue--- Wed --- Thur--- Fri--- Sat---  
No. of days----- x \$15.00 per day = \$-----  
Friday boat trip - \$10.00 \$----- Total \$-----

III. Sleeping accomodations:

I will bring a tent. Yes----- No----- (check one)  
There is room in my tent for ----- other people. (give number)  
I plan to share a tent with ----- (list names)  
I will not be bringing a tent and will need a sleeping  
space provided. (check if applicable) -----

IV. Transportation:

I will arrive (date) ----- (time) -----  
I will arrive by (check one) car--- train--- plane----- other---  
Upon arrival, transportation to Bird's Hill Park  
----- is / ----- is not needed (check one)

V. Medical:

Medical Insurance Number: -- -----  
List any allergies: -----  
List any medications you will be taking: -----  
Do you have any physical limitations? -----  
Signature of Parent or Guardian: -----

VI. Preregistration ( Deadline: June 30, 1982 )

Please enclose \$15.00 with this form. (Remainder to be paid upon  
arrival )

Send to: Rev. Ray Trotter  
1270 Jefferson Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R2P 0K3



Shepard, Martin; and Lee, Marjorie

Sexual Marathon; New York, Pinnacle Books (#P150Z),  
(1972, Authors) 189p.

An encounter session presided over by the male psychiatrist Shepard and taped by Mrs. Lee involves four men and four women, variously oriented sexually, some of whom had no previous acquaintance with others.

In view of the admissions made by Shepard, it seems to me that he was in more trouble psychologically than most of the participants; and I can certainly not endorse the activities which he initiated. The modern techniques appear to be aimed at throwing off all inhibitions and exploring new areas of emotion, regardless of sex morality, or sex laws.

The exhibitionism, disregard of propriety, and personal exposure, seem to me to negate individuality and to reduce human beings to a level of mediocrity. Possibly this is the trend of modern psychiatric teaching: to do away with the individual and to make him one with the group. I would shun such a development.

It is possible that an awareness of a common humanity may emerge from such sessions, but at the cost of privacy and individuality.



Shepard, Ray Anthony

Conjure Tales by Charles W. Chesnut retold; Illustrated by John Ross and Clare Romano; New York, E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc. (1973, author); Illos by artists; 100p.

I read these tales as originally written by Chesnut; see my notes under his title The Conjure Woman. Likely this retelling is easier to read than the heavy dialect of the original, but I know sufficient of the material from my notes, so did not read this volume.

3246 Portage Avenue  
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CELEBRATING  
THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY  
1962-1987  
LE PREMIER QUART DE SIÈCLE  
C A S E F Ê T E !

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**FirstCity Trust**

Sherriff, R. C.

The Hopkins Manuscript; London, Victor Gollancz Ltd,  
1939 352p.  
New York, The Macmillan Company, 1939 (1939, Author) 352p.  
New York, The Macmillan Company, 1963 (new material  
copyright by publishers); Introduction by John Cassner; Epi-  
logue by George Gamow; Illustrated by Joseph Mugnaini 274p.

The early part of this book is a detailed, excellent visualization of the moon falling upon the earth, narrated by a poultry raiser and amateur astronomer, a 46 year old bachelor who befriends a brother and sister neighbors after their father is killed in the catastrophe. Sherriff makes an excellent characterization and outlines the village scene accurately.

After portraying the cooperation following the crash, Sherriff shows how the politicians fight for sovereignty over the moon's territory and ultimately exhaust resources, reducing the dwindling population to near starvation. This is a cautionary tale, warning the nations against war.

This is probably one of the best humanistic catastrophe science fiction novels.





Sherry, Madam (Ruth Barnes)

Pleasure Was My Business, as Told to C. Robert Tralins  
New York, Paperback Library, Inc. (#52-204), (1961, 1963,  
author and transcriber), (4th printing, June, 1965) 159p.

A Miami, Florida madam tells the story of her high-class  
whorehouse, the girls and customers, including Al Capone and  
other gangsters, the protection payoffs, outstanding incidents  
and characters, including a prince and a king.

Towards the close of the book, she bemoans the decline of  
standards and the change to massage parlors. Legalization of  
prostitution is advocated.

She says that Polly Adler was a skinflint.

I see no reason to doubt this story, though some of the  
incidents may have been exaggerated.



Ship, Reuben

C63

The Investigator; Illustrated by Ronald Searle; London,  
Sidgwick and Jackson (1956) 119p.

Subtitled: A Narrative in Dialogue, this prose version of a CBC radio hour-long satire portrays the deportation from heaven of Socrates, Milton, Voltaire, Shelley, Jefferson, and others after trial for subversion by a McCarthy-like character who goes mad, declaring himself the Chief after saying that even that high official was not beyond suspicion.

Although this is the type of material which I am not competent to appraise, it was originally propagated by pirated recorded versions circulated in the States and apparently popular in Washington.

Humor and satire, well written.

Dedicated to John Drainie and Andrew Allan, who appear to have played parts in the production of the play.





Shipley, Nan

Churchill: Canada's Northern Gateway; Toronto, Burns & MacEachern Limited, 1974; Illustrated; Index; 124p.

Of the pages comprising this book, nine are devoted to the index which is so detailed as to be most helpful in providing quick access to information.

In addition to being a regional history, the book is a handy biographical reference to many of the people who were and are factors in the development of the Churchill area.

Because of its being a port, governments (federal, provincial, and local, as well as the U. S. Defence Dept.) have great influence in the destiny of the region; and neglect and political manipulations have often been detrimental to its interests.

Its vulnerability from a military point of view (it is a most probable point of attack from invaders); its short shipping season; and the shifting opinion of its desirability in comparison with Port Nelson, are likely the main reasons why its importance as a grain-shipping port has not been realized to the extent its merits deserve. Its modern facilities have proven attractive to tourists, however, and as knowledge of these becomes better known in the "outside" world, its future welfare should be assured.

My father worked handling grain at Churchill during the early thirties, but for only a short period of time as the grain dust affected his health. Unfortunately, I have no written or oral information available with reference to his stay there.

There will undoubtedly be occasions for our three school children to refer to this book in connection with their studies.

Chester D. Cuthbert.  
November 23rd, 1974.



1104 Mulvey Avenue,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba,  
R3M 1J5

November 23rd, 1974.

Dear Mrs. Shipley,

I expected to thank you sooner for sending us the autographed copy of your most recent book.

Enclosed is a copy of my file memorandum. It will be of little interest to you, and is not intended to be more than the usual reminder that I prepare in connection with every book I read, now that my memory is getting to be less reliable than it was.

In addition to our two boys and a girl still attending school, Muriel and I have two married children, each of them having two children. So your book is likely to be useful to coming generations.

Your courtesy in making us a visit is much appreciated; we enjoyed learning of your work, and I learned something of the problems which have to be faced by professional writers. As you mentioned, we are fortunate to have our home for our family and my book collection. You said that you and a friend are interested in psychic phenomena. I do not remember whether I told you that I am a Life Member of the Society for Psychical Research of London, England. Although I am not willing to lend books as I am constantly referring to most of them, please feel free at any time to ask me for information in this field which I may have readily available and which may not be accessible locally otherwise. If you and your friend would like to call and talk about such matters, you are welcome to do so at any time.

Thanks again for your book.

Sincerely,

Chester D. Cuthbert.



Shore, William

The Witch of Spring; New York, Pelligrini & Cudahy,  
1950 (1950, Shore) 348p.  
Montreal, Pocket Books of Canada, Ltd. (3rd Printing,  
December, 1951) 309p.

This is an interesting romantic novel of New Orleans in 1835 with Marie Laveau, voodoo queen, one of the characters who, with the heroine, teaches the idle rich white girls the love potions and magic to attract young men. I believe this Marie Laveau was a character in one of John Dickson Carr's novels of New Orleans.

Although it appears that the heroine learned and used black magic learned in Martinique, it is mainly used in this novel as working on the superstitions of the blacks and to keep them under control. Sexual orgies under the auspices of voodoo rites, rather than supernormal phenomena, mark the use of voodoo.

This seems, consequently, a borderline fantasy.

Jaime Kirkpatric, a wealthy young man from the north, meets on a steamboat a young man whose arm has been broken in strife with bandits along the river, and later finds him to be the leader of a gang fomenting revolt among the blacks with a view to freeing them from white domination. His sister-in-law, whose brother had killed her husband, is said to be under the domination of voodoo and to be a wicked woman using the rites for her own cruel ends.

Jaime finds Twila the most beautiful woman he has ever seen and falls in love with her. He learns that the white men of New Orleans take as concubines mulatto women who are resigned to living apart from white society and bearing the children of these men without marriage, and paints the portrait of the mistress of his friend, coming to love and respect her, though she commits suicide after being whipped at the jealous whim of a white woman, fiancée of her protector. Jaime and her protector join the rebel leader to learn of his plans, and then betray him to the white planters, but Jaime learns to respect him and his aims.

Marie Laveau and the mulatto women seem the most interesting part of this novel, which is quite frank about the sexual mores of the various kinds of women in New Orleans. The men do not appear to advantage, though they have among themselves the code of gentlemen.

An interesting novel, but little more than average.





Shrader, Wesley

The Amazing Power of Hypnosis: What It Can Do for You;  
Foreword by Anthony B. Gabriele, Ph.D.; Garden City, New York,  
Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1976 (1976, author); Bibliography  
186p.

A Baptist minister for forty years, the author treated many people for emotional and functional disabilities, outlines 26 cases in this book, and pleads for acceptance and use of hypnosis by qualified medical practitioners or hypnotherapists.

The cases are concisely presented and cover a wide range of problems.

I was amused to find on the front cover of the dust jacket the word "Foreward" used instead of Foreword.

Chester D. Cuthbert  
July 2, 2000

Note: A paperbound edition was published by Barnes and Noble  
Books in 1977 186p.



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Shulman, Irving

The Amboy Dukes (Specially revised and edited edition);  
New York, Avon Publications, Inc. (1946, 1947, author);  
(Doubleday & Co., Inc.), (#T-138) 189p.

This is probably the first sensational novel about teenage gangs, their sexual relationships with young girls, their social milieu, and the carrying of weapons which lead them to chance murders and mutilations of victims.

Frank Abbott and a friend are warned against carrying guns by a friendly physical education teacher, but after Frank has heeded his warning, the friend, who with Frank had been rebellious in class, kills the teacher who had arranged with the school principal the suspension of classes until parents of the pupils could be summoned to discipline them.

The story concerns the efforts of the two boys to hide their crime and escape punishment, the efforts of Frank to keep his 11-year-old sister from being bothered by a mentally retarded by vicious member of the Dukes, who commits a rape at a gang party on a 12-year-old girl, the rivalry among the members of the gang and among the gangs themselves, their code of ethics and behavior, and their relationships with the police.

Court decisions concerning obscenity brought attention to this book, which it might not otherwise have merited.

HOME STREET



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(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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May 30, 1982

Dear Home Street Youth:

Just a note to let you know of the fun and exciting youth activities coming your way this Summer.

First - Youth Campout, July 1-4 at

Spruce Woods Provincial Park

A registration form is enclosed - note its due date: June 20. This is especially for you - the youth of Home Street Church - and your friends. We'll leave the church at 8:30 AM, July 1.

Second - Encounter '82, August 8-15 at

Bird's Hill Provincial Park

This is the Big One! Youth from all across Canada will be joining us for a terrific week. Camp leader will be Steve Mabry from Sacramento, California. If you attended the Anaheim Assembly last year, you may remember him as one of the youth leaders - the one with the guitar. Enclosed is further information on Encounter and an Encounter Registration form. Note its due date: June 30.

Again this year you have something great to work for. Bottles? Car washes? Whatever; it's time to begin. I'll be in touch.

In His Service,

  
Ray E. Trotter



Shulman, Morton

Anyone Can Make a Million; Foreword by Charles B. Templeton; New York, Bantam Books, Inc. (#N3669); Illustrated; (March, 1968), (McGraw-Hill, 1967) 242p.

This is a sound, practical, and perceptive study of the ways in which investors can take advantage of broker practices to make money with little risk on the stock market. I think that Shulman is correct in almost all he writes; but there is an indication that he may have been one of the people who were fooled by the forgeries of de Hory, as narrated in Irving's book, even though Shulman sold out at a profit.

Shulman does not hesitate to take advantage of every opportunity to turn a dollar, regardless of ethics, and I know that I would stand no chance of beating him on any deal. He has openly described his methods, however, and cannot be faulted for using the system to his own advantage.

His recommendations in almost every case are worthwhile.



Shulman, Morton

The Billion Dollar Windfall; Toronto/Montreal, McGraw-Hill Publishing Company of Canada Limited; Mar; (1969, Shulman); Index 289p.

This is the detailed account of the Kidd Creek base metal mine find of Texas Gulf Sulphur, its exploitation and principally its effect on the stock market boom in penny stocks of mines in the area and on insider trading relating to the stock of Texas Gulf and Windfall Oils and Mines, the conviction and imprisonment of Viola MacMillan, and the effort of the SEC to commence control of insider trading in Canada.

It is a graphic portrayal of the penny stock market and the fortunes which can be made and lost during a market frenzy. It is a popular account, rather than a technical one, but Shulman gives credit to others for the idea and research which went into the book, and it appears to be a permanent reference to the affair.



Shulman, Morton

How to Invest Your Money & Profit from Inflation; Markham, Ontario, Penguin Books Canada Ltd. (#5690); (1980, Shulman 188p.

Reading this book on October 6th, 1982 reveals the errors which changing economic and financial circumstances have made in the recommendations Shulman advocated, even in the revised edition, which this is.

Although the tight money and high interest rate policies have continued, contrary to Shulman's predictions inflation has moderated slightly; and unless the pressures of unemployment force easier money and lower interest rates, his view of 25% inflation and interest rates may be disproved. I cannot disagree with his declaration that bonds are losers, since my own experience confirms this; but as in the 'thirties, no investment appears to be "safe".

I can see nothing in this book to contradict my own view of long-term investing in assets, rather than for income; and he does support strongly investment in equities rather than in paper-money securities. The current scramble for cash is a warning against illiquidity, however, and Bouey's insistence on maintaining the value of money seems to contradict "real" wealth accumulation.

I still hold to my view that wealth is for use, however. To maintain that production must be solely for profit seems absolutely to be refuted by the fact of technological efficiency and the production of surpluses which cannot be sold at a profit.





Shute, Nevil

Beyond the Black Stump: A Novel; New York, William  
Morrow & Company, 1956 316p.  
New York, Ballantine Books (#U5007), (July, 1966) 254p.  
(#o2274), (Second Printing, June, 1971) 254p.

An illegitimate but beautiful girl in the Australian outback meets an American geologist working for an oil exploration company and falls in love with him. He, as 16-year-old, had fathered a child, the girl choosing to marry him his best friend by whom she had three other children before he was killed while stunting in an airplane. Sobering his life, he becomes a non-drinker, and strait-laced.

Her father a hard-drinking but successful sheep rancher, her mother a former barmaid, and her father having several half-caste children by a black woman, Mollie lives in frontier surroundings and is dazzled by the scenes of American life which she sees in the Saturday Evening Post and other magazines lent her by the geologist. Agreeing to marry him, she goes to visit his family in Oregon, finds their outlook and values will not accept her background, and renounces the geologist, who, while failing to find oil, has located water badly needed by a young English sheep rancher who also loves Mollie and has been helped by her father during a drought, and presents her with the information necessary to enable water to be found when he suspects that she will marry the young Englishman when she returns to Australia.

Comparable to The Chequer Board in its presentation of two differing ways of life, this is an interesting love tale and description of life in a small American town and on the primitive Australian outback.

A good story.

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**FirstCity Trust**

Shute, Nevil

The Chequer Board; New York, William Morrow & Company,  
1947, (1947, publishers) 380p.  
Toronto, McClelland & Stewart, Limited (1947, Morrow)  
380p.

New York, William Morrow & Company, 1947 (Book Club  
Edition) 380p.

Melbourne/London/Toronto, William Heinemann Ltd. (1947,  
1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1956) 278p.

New York, Avon (#V2128), (December, 1961; 5th ptg.,  
July, 1965) 255p.

New York, Ballantine Books (#U5122), (February, 1968)  
255p.

Like so many of Shute's books, this novel starts as if written in the first person by a brain surgeon consulted by a war veteran Captain who has sustained a head injury which is diagnosed as fatal within a year. The Captain has been involved in a crooked sugar deal which he later excuses as the only way he can get ahead of the excessive taxation imposed in England. In hospital with him are a negro who has been accused of attempting to rape a young girl; a pilot who has married a promiscuous girl and who later abandons her to another man, going to Burma where he marries a lovely girl, well-educated and with good family, becomes a Government official after wartime experiences with the Japanese, and with her has a couple of children; a Commando who has killed a larger man after a bar-room brawl.

Knowing of his impending death, the Captain determines to track down the other three and see if they have failed or succeeded. Himself married but childless, the Captain is pleased to find that the negro has married the girl he had been unjustly accused of injuring, she sharing the good opinion of American negro troops which they had earned in her village; and the killer Commando having become a distributor of meat and happily married.

The main significances of this novel are the promotion of humanity as against racial segregation, and the ability of criminals or losers to succeed if given a chance to do so. From a literary point of view the switches to third person narration, the long verbatim repetition of talks too long and detailed to have been so retold, and too private to have been known to any but the participants, are unacceptable, but this is a very good popular novel, with important messages to people to be tolerant and co-operative with even the lowest and most deprived in this world.

A very good, even important book.

Npte: Although not an important factor, Shute mentions with apparent acceptance, an instance of astrological divination of the character and events in the life of the Captain. This book might, therefore, like No Highway be classified as fantasy.

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CELEBRATING  
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ÇA SE FÊTE!

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**FirstCity Trust**

Shute, Nevil

The Far Country; London/Melbourne/Toronto, William  
Heinemann Limited (1952) 333p.  
New York, William Morrow & Company, 1952 (1952, Pub-  
lishers) 343p.  
London, Pan Books Ltd., (1967), (3rd ptg., 1969) 335p.  
(#M260)  
New York, Ballantine Books (#U5001) 287p.  
(#2271), (Second Printing, June, 1971) 287p.

The dust jacket blurb on the British first edition gives a good general description of this book, which I think is an outline of the author's feelings about the two countries, England and Australia, when he decided to leave England and go to the newer continent.

He was discouraged by the socialist government in the old country, the shortages, unemployment, bureaucracy, and said that for young people, either Canada or Australia, with their relative freedom and opportunity, were preferable.

The story is simple. A girl secretary, daughter of an overworked and underpaid doctor whose wife is a semi-invalid, is given a legacy by her dying aunt sufficient to finance a trip to Australia where a sheep grazer has worked for thirty years to achieve financial independence which has come with a huge increase in the price of wool. He finds them good and honest people, falls in love with a Czech doctor unable to practice in Australia because he still has nine months' work as a lumberman to pay off his debt for passage from a labor camp from which he is a displaced person, and because it will take him three years to qualify as a doctor in Australia by re-studying and interning.

The girl's mother dies and she returns to England to help her father adjust to the loss of his wife. He is frustrated by the regulations and shortages, and by having had to renounce her love for the Czech. He finds the tombstone of a namesake in a burnt-out town, builds a cabin on the site, and discovers a cache of gold coins and dust which his predecessor had earned as a cartage man. This enables him to study and to go to England and pursue his love.

As usual, Shute tells a good story, and the love angle is well handled. The main theme of the novel is, however, the contrast between the English and the Australian way of life.





Thute, Nevil

In the Wet; New York, William Morrow and Company, 1953  
(1953, publishers) 339p.

As in so many Thute books, this starts as a first person narrative and continues as a third person story about a different character.

In the Author's Note on the last page, Thute says he is attempting to forecast the immediate future of the British commonwealth of nations. A monarchist, he brings the Royal family in as characters, says the heirs to the throne are reluctant to assume the burdens of office, that the future of the commonwealth lies in Australia because of multiple votes awarded for achievement, and derides the one vote one man system as unworkable because the votes of the illiterate are swayed by political chicanery.

A Church of England clergyman in poor circumstances in Australia befriends a drunkard who, during the rainy season, is dying of peritonitis, and learns during delirium of the future of Anderson, a quadroon nicknamed Nigger, who becomes commander of an aircraft assigned by the Australian government to the Queen's service, and who falls in love with the Queen's personal secretary. Britain is ruled by ignorant civil servants of a Labor government, whose socialistic bias reduces the standard of living, and leaves no room for the enterprising achievements of the Australian people, who have a growing population from emigration from England of its most energetic citizens. Canada also has assigned an aircraft; this brings about jealousy of the British service who say the Queen is favoring the colonies rather than her home citizens. An attempt is made to bomb the Australian craft; this is sensed (extrasensorily) by the commander who jettisons the bomb and is sworn to secrecy concerning the matter.

The long dream episode is far too detailed to have been uttered by the drunkard, a weakness of many Thute books. It compares with No Highway as a revelation of another's life; Thute seems to accept the idea that alternate lifestyles or lifetimes are possible to the same individual.

On page 84 the dates of coins carried by a character go as high as 1982. This is an unusual future history of a specialized nature.

My mention of No Highway should be An Old Captivity.



Shute, Nevil

Kindling; New York, William Morrow & Company, 1938;  
(1938, Publishers) 279p.

The theme of this novel is that the end justifies the means.

Henry Warren, head of a firm of merchant bankers with a high reputation, discovers that his wife is unfaithful, and divorces her. His health has been undermined by overwork, but business pressures do not relent. Seeking relief from them, he determines to take a week's walking vacation, but a stomach problem requires an operation; he enters a hospital in a town with high unemployment because of shipbuilding inactivity, falls in love with a woman who is an assistant administrator in the hospital, and because of her faith in the town decides to re-activate the shipyard. He warns her that he cannot do this legitimately.

To achieve his ends, he enters into a contract with a Baltic country, bribing officials, crooked gambling, and by issuing a false prospectus for the company financing the shipyard revival.

The shipyard succeeds, but he pleads guilty to the falsifying of the prospectus and is imprisoned for three years.

The hospital woman loves him and awaits his release, which transpires after his divorce is finalized. He goes to the shipyard town, whose workers hail him as their savior.

This is an excellent and important novel. However, I think that Shute did not amply justify the false prospectus, even though Warren tried to avoid taking money for shares from people who could not afford losses. Business practice is clearly described, however, and the plot is worked out simply and interestingly.

Warren's relaxing in jail after the stresses of his business life might be compared with my own retirement from business. Like him, I slowed down my reading pace, and did more thinking about what I read.

This book is well worth re-reading.

New York, Lancer Books (#73-427), (1964) 224p.





Shute, Nevil

Landfall: A Channel Story; New York, Triangle Books,  
(August, 1942, November, 1942, January, 1943), (1940, Wil-  
liam Morrow & Company, Inc.) 284p.

A young English flying officer sinks a submarine, be-  
lieving it is a German, and a naval court finds him guilty  
of sinking a British one, which had been delayed on course.  
He falls in love with a barmaid who learns that there were  
two submarines sunk in the Channel on the same day, and is  
instrumental in giving information to the authorities which  
clears the flyer and he is given credit for sinking the  
enemy submarine which had previously sunk by torpedo the  
delayed ~~British~~ British one.

Carefully plotted, well written, and with good charac-  
terization, this novel compares with The Mysterious Aviator  
in interest. It is the first novel of Shute's, I believe,  
that I have read which is told entirely in the third person.

I have not yet read a poor book by Shute.

New York, Lancer Books (#73-431), (July, 1962; December,  
1964) 191p.





Shute, Nevil

The Legacy: A Novel; New York, William Morrow and Company, 1950; (1950, Publishers) 308p.  
v.t. A Town Like Alice

Told in the first person by an old solicitor who drew up a will for an invalid bachelor, but with a third person narrative taking up the bulk of the novel, this describes a girl inheriting the legacy of 53,000 English pounds who becomes a prisoner of war in Malaya to the Japanese, falls in love with an Australian truck driver who is crucified by a Japanese captain for stealing five chickens to feed the girl and her companion women and children who have been sent hundreds of miles from place to place and for three years do work as coolies without supervision simply because the Japanese don't want to be bothered with them.

After the war, the girl learns of her inheritance; she returns to Malaya to have a well dug to ease the work of the native women who were so kind to her; she then learns that the crucified Australian did not die, and sets out to find him in Australia. He, discovering that she was an unmarried woman, goes to England to find her. The solicitor aids them by advancing money from the legacy, which its terms did not allow free of his supervision for until the girl was 35.

In Australia, while awaiting the return of the Australian, the girl starts several businesses to turn a backwoods village into a thriving town like Alice Springs. Rescue of a cattle thief with a broken leg concludes the story, but the solicitor visits the girl, by then a married woman with two children, and writes the story before he dies.

Like most of Shute's books, the people drawn are good human beings, and the story is interesting.



Chute, Nevil

Lonely Road, London, Pan Books Ltd., (#X188), (1932,  
Wm. Heinemann Ltd., 1962, 6th ptg., 1964) 221p.  
New York, Ballantine Books (#02089), (December, 1970) 216p.

I read this book from the Pan edition.

This third book by Chute was published when he was 33 years old. He involved a political mystery with the tragedy of a naval submarine commander who had ordered the killing of Germans on another submarine who had already signified their surrender, to the horror of a subordinate, and had been drinking heavily and living a lonely bachelor's life in his work as a shipyard owner.

On a trip to the north of England he met a dance hall hostess and fell in love with her. She was a good girl and he offered to pay her expenses if she would vacation at his home, with no ulterior motive save companionship. Having while motoring in a drunken condition been injured and not understanding what had happened, he becomes involved in a gun-running case with the police and Scotland Yard, and learns that the brother of the dance hall girl was driver of the lorry transporting the guns, protects her and her brother but they are both killed by the gun runners and he returns to his work.

The love story was idealistic and affecting, the tragic outcome leaving the reader sympathetic towards the lonely bachelor with only his work and booze to interest him. As usual, Chute conveys his characters compassionately, but is merciless on the professor who, for political motives, has tried to influence an election by the gun-running, throwing the blame on the Russians from whom the guns were likely obtained. He also had his hero eliminate the gun runners.

As usual, a good Chute story.



Shute, Nevil

Most Secret; New York, William Morrow and Company, 1945	
(1945, Publishers)	310p.
(Third Printing, November, 1945)	310p.
Garden City, New York, The Sun Dial Press (1946)	310p.
London/Toronto, William Heinemann Ltd. (1945)	275p.
New York, Ballantine Books (#01618), (Fourth American	
Printing, May, 1969)	281p.

Four dedicated individuals vow to bring fire against the Germans occupying France. One of them has lost his pregnant wife in a bombing raid; another his pet dog and rabbit; the third is an American bigamist who cares nothing for anything but adventure, but is still in love with his last wife who is in San Francisco; the fourth is a minor character who loses his life during a flame-throwing expedition against the Germans.

The leader, Charles Simon, is an Englishman brought up in France, but educated in England. He sacrifices his life to save the execution of thirty French people who are accused of sheltering him.

The story is narrated in the first person by an officer who switches the narration to the third person as suits the occasion; this technique is often used by Shute.

The individual who has lost his pets is loved by a girl who drives a truck for an English unit. This is the main love interest in the book.

Since this is a war story, it is probably the one I liked least of all the Shute books I've read to date. The conclusion is the best part of the book; the flame-throwing incidents are cruel and revolting; after all, even the Germans are human.







Shute, Nevil

The Mysterious Aviator; New York, Grosset & Dunlap;  
(1928, Houghton Mifflin Company) 304p.

Narrated in the first person by Peter L. Moran, estate agent of a British nobleman and an aviator who has not flown for nine years after the first world war, this is the story of a fellow flier, unable to make a living in his own country, who is hired by the Russians and finally sent on a mission to photograph by aerial survey a district in Sussex.

Rescued by Moran after he crashes his plane from lack of fuel, the flier is unable to make up his mind whether to go back to Russia with the plates he has taken. Believing himself divorced, financially broke, and unable to make a living in his own country, he feels he has no alternative.

Moran gets in touch with a former flier who knows the aviator and arranges a possible job and opportunity for a bright future for the flier. He meets the flier's wife, who blames herself for the separation, and wants a reconciliation with her husband. Moran and the daughter of his employer are in love, and together they expose the plates, leaving the flier in ignorance of this. A Russian agent and a communist Britisher known to Moran steal the plates; the flier follows them to Italy in an effort to recover them and destroy them; Moran flies the plane to Italy in an effort to reach the flier and bring him back to England; crashes it and is injured in the crash, but Sheila arrives with a friend of the flier who assists Moran, but not in time to save the flier, who is shot by the Russian agent, and dies after exposing what he believes to be the undamaged plates.

A good story, well told, but not an important book by Shute.

New York, Ballantine Books (#U5123), (February, 1968),  
under British title, No Ordained) 223p.

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Shute, Nevil

No Highway; New York, William Morrow & Co., 1948;  
(1948, publishers) 346p.

This novel constitutes an excellent example of the problem involved in differentiating between ordinary fiction and fantasy and science fiction.

The first part is very suspenseful: a scientist who is investigating the problem of metal fatigue discovers that an aircraft in which he is travelling is theoretically about to crash because of it. Unable to convince the pilot of danger, he wrecks the aircraft so it cannot take off from a landing at Gander. His superior, who has sent him to investigate an earlier air disaster of the same type of aircraft, backs him up despite his own doubts of the scientist who has a record of interest in psychic phenomena, pyramidology, British Israelite prophecy, and the ouija board.

Although mainly devoted to the human and technical problems of aviation, and concentrating on women as helpmates and supporters of men, Shute emphasises the responsibilities imposed by **organizations** on their employees, and the disruptions of family life resulting.

Although smoothly written, transitions from narrative in the first person to the third person are somewhat disconcerting to the reader. Nonetheless, this is an excellent novel, suspenseful and with human interest paramount, and with a masterly grasp of the business, technical and governmental roles involved in aviation.

In the concluding part of the novel, the daughter of the scientist uses an ouija board as a source of information to discover the whereabouts of an essential part of the aircraft needed to prove metal fatigue as a cause of its crash. This is accepted by the author as factual. Since science does not (as yet) acknowledge psychic phenomena of this kind, the book must currently be classified as fantasy. Excepting for this incident, and the borderline interest of the subjects mentioned in the second paragraph of these notes, it is primarily an aviation story. If psychic phenomena become incorporated in the body of orthodox science, many fantasy novels would have to be re-classified.

Note: Paperback edition: London, Pan Books Ltd. (1963, 13th printing, 1976), (#02072) 281p.

New York, Dell Publishing Company, Inc. (#516) 288p.

Cover illustration pictures James Stewart and Marlene Dietrich from the movie.



Shute, Nevil

An Old Captivity; New York, The Literary Guild of America, Inc. (1940, William Morrow & Company, Inc.) 333p.  
Toronto, Collins (White Circle #407), (1949,author)192p

Donald Ross, a bush pilot, is hired by a professor to conduct an aerial survey of an archaeological site in Greenland. His daughter goes along to care for her 60 year old father, much against the wishes of Ross, who is embarrassed by her extra weight and equipment, and the care she must be given during an arduous trip.

The story details the difficulties of the flight, and can be compared to the work of Arthur Hailey. So tired that he becomes ill, and under the influence of dangerous sleeping pills, Ross dreams of himself as an ancient Scot, taken to Greenland and American shores by Leif Erickson, accompanied by his wife, finding sanctuary in Vinland, the Cape Cod Coast. Locating a stone there with their ancient names engraved proves his dreams to represent an actuality; he identifies his former love with the daughter of the professor, and they prepare to re-live their romance.

Max Brand's story "The Loves of Beatrice Jervan" is the same theme.

This is an excellent adventure story, well told. It qualifies as fantasy, also.

New York, Lancer Books (#73-432), (1964), (Second  
Lancer Printing, November, 1964), (November, 1962; first)  
(1940, William Morrow & Company) 224p.



# 1982 ALL-CANADA CONVENTION

CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Disciples of Christ)

## REGISTRATION FORM EXPLANATION

This year there is a Women's Retreat prior to the Convention itself. The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is available Tuesday night for those wishing to arrive early for this event.

A. Registration ... We hope you will find this self explanatory. Please note separate registration for Encounter Groups. There is no Convention registration fee for children under eleven years. (See Day Care).

B. Accomodation... The Mennonite Brethren Bible College is passing along the \$8.00 per person bedding charge, in which they receive no profit. This bedding is for the entire time, regardless of how long you stay.

Children twelve years and under who stay with adults, will be provided with a mattress at one half the \$4.50 adult price... i.e. \$2.25 per night and their linen is \$8.00

C. Meals... For catering purposes, the Mennonite Brethren Bible College must have an accurate count in advance of the Convention.

You will note there is no supper being served on Saturday at the Convention site. The cafeteria will be closed on Sunday morning. Home Street church will be providing a light complimentary lunch following the Sunday morning worship service.

For children under twelve, all meals are half adult price, with exception of those three years and under, whose meals are free.

The C.C.W.F. luncheon has been combined with the C.C.M.F. luncheon because of our special speaker, Dr. Jean Woolfolk.

D. Child Care.... The cost of \$4.00 per day includes two snacks and a noon meal, and the child's care after breakfast until 5.00 p.m.



Shute, Nevil

On the Beach; New York, William Morrow and Company,  
1957, (6th Ptg., August, 1957), (1957, Publishers) 320p.

A nuclear war between the States and Russia is started by computer error, and the fallout causes the death of all organic life. The story begins in the last year of the airborne fallout, drifting south to Australia; the scenes are mainly Australian apart from a submarine journey to the west coast of America to check out whether there are any survivors.

A married couple with one baby, a married U. S. Naval commander whose family has been killed by the fallout but who fantasizes that they are still alive, and a drinking Australian girl who falls in love with him but respects his dedication to his wife and family, are the main characters.

Shute portrays the characters as trying to live normal lives, not quite realizing that death is coming for all, and with only a suicide pill to ease the agony. Idealized in this way, the portrayal gives no idea, apart from drinking excessively, of the deterioration which would stem from the situation. Although unrealistic in this respect, good details of the last days of the human race are presented.

Only ordinary incidents in the quiet lives of ordinary people are narrated, so the story itself is unimportant. The details of the coming doom and people's reactions to it form the important elements of the story.

An impressive warning of the consequences of nuclear war.

New York/Toronto/London, Bantam Books (#73875), (April, 1968), (1957, William Morrow and Company) 278p.  
(#N5505, seventh printing, 1970?) 278p.

New York, Signet Books (#D1562), (Third Printing, January, 1960), (October, 1958) 238p.

There are illustrations from the movie starring Gregory Beck and Ava Gardner, Fred Astaire, Anthony Perkins, and introducing Donna Anderson. I appear to have no other copy of this edition than my own.



Shute, Nevil

Ordeal: A Novel; New York, William Morrow & Company,  
1939, (1939, Publishers) 281p.  
v.t. What Happened to the Corbetts

A solicitor and his wife, living in a semi-detached house in Southampton are bombed out of their home; his office is damaged, and when utility services are inadequate he is forced with his wife and three children, one of them a baby in need of milk, flee the city and live on their small yacht. Unable to obtain milk, they finally force their way into a store which has refused to sell them any condensed milk and take fifteen cans, leaving payment for them.

Friends are killed in the air raids, hospitals are in need of help; he is requested to serve in the Navy, refusing because he cannot leave his family in such straits. Having rescued two airmen, they are granted help from the aircraft carrier and sail to France. The wife and children leave for Canada, where they will be cared for by the solicitor's sister; and the husband volunteers for a commission.

The devastation of war is graphically portrayed; and I consider that this book is prophetic, since it was written in 1938. It is not fantasy or science fiction, except by convention.

A good story, well told, and important for its time.



Shute, Nevil

Pastoral; London/Toronto, William Heinemann Ltd (1944) 218p.  
New York, William Morrow and Company, 1944; (1944, Publishers) 246p.  
Toronto, McClelland and Stewart, Limited, 1944; (1944, William Morrow & Company, Inc.) 246p.  
Montreal, Pocket Books of Canada, Ltd. (#281), (Third Printing, May, 1946) 270p.  
New York, Ballantine Books (#02275), (Third Printing, June, 1971) 222p.

This love story is probably one of Shute's less important novels, but does portray the problems involved when a pilot on wartime missions to bomb Germany falls in love with a WAAC, and their courting must be carried on against the regulations.

Peter proposes marriage, but the girl is not sure of her feelings for him and turns him down. Losing efficiency because of her proximity, he makes a mistake during flying, endangering his aircraft and his crew; she realizes his problem and arranges fishing expeditions to enable him and his crew to relax during slack periods. On his first trip after their reconciliation, his plane is badly damaged and only his expertise enables him to fly it safely to the base with his crew. Delay in his arrival leads the girl to the thought that he may have been shot down; she cannot visualize a future without him, acknowledging her love. He agrees to marry him and they are given leave; but she intends asking for release from duty to become a wife and mother.

Well told as usual, and a good love story portraying wartime conditions in the British Air Force, this is still one of Shute's less important novels, though it became a Book-of-the-Month selection.



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**FirstCity Trust**

Shute, Nevil

Pied Piper; New York, Book League of America (1941,'2)  
William Morrow and Company, Inc. 306p.

Told in the first person at beginning and end by a fellow Club member of the old man involved in the story, this is the tale of how the old man agreed to take from France to England two children, a boy and a girl, whose parents were staying in Geneva where the father worked for the League of Nations. Before his difficulties of travel were ended, and because of the German invasion of France, the children were seven in number, one of them a German girl, one Dutch, one French, another Polish Jew, and a French boy.

His journey is assisted by a French girl who had fallen in love with his son, who had been killed in action.

As a portrayal of conditions of refugees from the invasion of France, and as a human story, this simple account is well done. The third person account of the journey is, in my opinion, far too detailed to have been narrated in the British Club; but it sets the scene in London, then being under air attack by the Germans, and the story's mood.

Although good of its kind, this is not a story of any importance to me.

(On page 54, last paragraph, little Rose was ten years old; on Page 76 her age is given as 8. Shute became confused because the English boy was 8; he had earlier put the 10 year-old girl in charge of the other two, of whom the little girl was only 4)



Shute, Nevil

The Rainbow and the Rose; New York, William Morrow &  
Company, 1958 310p.

Though Johnnie Pascoe has been injured in a plane crash and is lying critically ill with a skull fracture during the two days when the Captain Ronnie Clarke whom he had taught to fly is trying to fly a doctor in to help him, the story of his love for two women, his divorce from the first and his loss by suicide of the second, leaving to survive from each romance a daughter, the first who hated him because she heard only her mother's side of the story, the second because of knowing him, loved him, is told in the form of dreams experienced by Ronnie Clarke. This rather clumsy literary device is confusing because both Clarke and Pascoe tell the story in the first person; there is little to mark the transition from Clarke to Pascoe, especially in the first transition.

Pascoe's first wife, an actress, is earning 200 pounds a week when he can make barely three pounds after World War I, and she leaves him to go to Hollywood from England, taking their daughter. Pascoe becomes a flying instructor at a private flying club, and falls in love with the wife of a sex maniac who is immobilised in a sanitarium. They have an illegitimate daughter, but the wife commits suicide because she feels that as the wife of the sick man, she cannot abandon him, even for the sake of her lover and her daughter. The daughter, a nurse, becomes an airline hostess to learn about the kind of father she has by working under him: he is the captain of her aeroplane. Although he is sixty years of age, his attachment for her leads him in ignorance to ask if she will marry him, when she reveals the truth.

An interesting story, but not above average as a novel.





Shute, Nevil

So Disdained, New York, Ballantine Books (#U5123),  
(February, 1968) 224p.  
v.t. The Mysterious Aviator.

See my notes under the variant title.



Shute, Nevil

Stephen Morris; New York, William Morrow & Company,  
1961; (1961, Heather Felicity Norway and Union Trustee Com-  
pany of Australia Limited, Executors 303p  
New York, Lancer Books (#73-435), (1965) 220p

Foreword	Thayer Hobson	vii
1. Stephen Morris		1
2. Pilotage		157

These short novels were not professionally publishable and are probably the least interesting of all Shute's work.

Morris and his girl are unable to marry because he is not earning enough money, but he gets a job as flyer for a designer of aircraft whose firm is able to survive though his earlier job as pilot taking people on joy-rides fails. He succeeds as occasional flyer and is able to marry.

The second features Dennison and his girl friend Helen who are likewise unable to marry because of finances. She refuses to go with him to China where he has promise of a job which would enable them to marry, because she knows he would not be happy there, and hopes that if he stays in England a job with sufficient income would materialize. He is hired to fly a trans-ocean flying boat after he is run down by the owner in his yacht; succeeds in the mission by jettisoning the cargo in favor of addition petrol, and is thereby able to obtain a job which enables him to marry. Morris has already married, and is a secondary character in the second novelette.

These two stories are of interest only to people who wish to know what the early experimental flying days were like in England.

"Mga kapatid kong babae at lalaki, ang mga nabanggit ng ating bisita ay karapatdapat na pag-ukulan natin ng pag-iisip." Matapos ito ay yumuko sa makislap na isda at nangusap sa kaniya: "Subalit makislap na kaibigan, dapat din tanggapin natin na iyong mga ngiming isda na matahimik na nabubuhay dito sa sapa ay nagsaad din ng mga pahayag na karapatdapat pag-isipan. "Kahit ano pa man ang mangyari, magpakatino tayo at ipagpatuloy ang mga awiting natutunan noong mga nakalipas na panahon, at nakapagbigay sa atin ng kaginhawahan." Tumingin siya sa kaniyang binabasa at muling ngumiti sa kanila. "Magagawan natin ito ng paraan. Bakit hindi tayo bumuo ng isang grupong tatalakay sa bagay na ito. Maari tayong magkita tuwing Martes ng gabi sa ganap na 7:30. Alam kong ang ilan sa mga isda dito sa sapa ay matutuwa pang magdala ng kape at tinapay."

Naging malungkot ang mata ng makislap na isda. "Hindi ito ang katugunan. Oo, mahalaga ang pag-uusap, subalit sa bandang huli, simple lamang. Tumalon ka mula sa sapa at magtiwala na ang ilog na siyang pangunahing agos at daluyan ng buhay ang magdadala sa iyo sa lawa. Matapos ito, ang iba pang mga kapatid na lalaki at babaeng isda ay magkakalakas ng loob na sumunod sa iyo, at isang araw, makakarating ka sa lawa--ang dakong pinaglalaanan talaga sa inyo."

Sa itaas ng malabong sapa, may isang ibon na nagsimulang humuni. Muling kuminang ang kislap sa mga mata ng isda at may pagmamadaling sinabi: "Ngayon na ang panahon upang simulan ang inyong pagtalon. Sumunod kayo sa akin at gagawin ko kayong mga mangingisda ng isda!"

Sa simula ay walang nais kumilos. Matapos ang kaunting sandali, ang ilan ay naglapitan sa kaniya ang mga isda at sama-sama silang tumalon sa ilog at tinangay sila ng agos ng ilog.

Ang mga natirang isda ay naging tahimik, at muling lumangoy na paikot at nagsimulang maghanap ng kutong-tubig at nagsimula na namang magsipag-away.

Sinasabi sa atin ng Diyos ngayon, katulad ng pagsasalita niya noon kay Hosea: "Nais ko ang matibay na pag-ibig at hindi pagtitiis, ang kaalaman sa Diyos sa halip na sinunog na alay." (Hosea 6:6)

Ang matibay na pag-ibig na mayroon tayo para sa Diyos ang siyang makapagbibigay kahulugan sa araw ng ating mga linggo at makapagpapakilos sa ating buhay iglesia. Tayo nang tumalon paalis sa sapa ng Home Street at angkinin ang pangunahin daluyan ng ating buong buhay para sa Diyos habang hinahanap natin ang malawak na lawa na ipinangako sa atin ng Diyos!

AMEN.

REB. DR. RAYMOND A. CUTHBERT  
HOME STREET CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Shute, Nevil

A Town Like Alice; London, Melbourne, Toronto, William  
Heinemann Ltd (June, 1950; June, July, September, October,  
1950) 338p

v.t. The Legacy

See my notes under the variant title.

New York, Ballantine Books (#30565), (9th Canadian  
Printing, April, 1982) 279p.





Shute, Nevil

Trustee from the Toolroom; London/Melbourne/Toronto,  
Heinemann, (1960, Heather Felicity Norway and Union Trustee  
Company of Australia Limited Executors of the Estate of Nevil  
Shute Norway), (2nd Printing) 312p.  
New York, Morrow, 1960 311p.  
(Fourth Printing, September, 1960) 311p.  
New York, Ballantine Books (#U5121), (August, 1967) 256p.

Shute's last novel, this is another good book, about a model engineer who writes articles for a small circulation hobby magazine and carries on correspondence all over the world with hobbyists at his own expense. His brother-in-law is from a noble family, but when he decides to live in Canada and buy a house there, restrictions on the export of money and valuables from England decide him to buy diamonds and take them with him on a small boat. The hobbyist helps him by building a safe buried in concrete which can be set in a sump on the boat.

The hobbyists niece is left with him by the couple who are shipwrecked in a storm and killed. Her legacy is useless without the diamonds. The hobbyist decides to erect a headstone on the graves of his relatives, and obtain the diamonds by going to the scene of the wreck, but lacks financial means and is supplied with transportation because of his reputation by friends who know of his circumstances and his writings.

Airborne as nearly as possible to the scene, he agrees to hire a simple-minded giant to take him the rest of the way on a boat the giant has constructed single-handed. The giant has previously been sentenced for rape on accusations by the girl's mother, though the girl herself was pleased. He is found attractive by the wealthy daughter of the owner of a manned yacht, and they cohabit. The giant takes the hobbyist to the scene and the gravestone is erected and the diamonds shipped back to England with the motor only declared for the Customs.

A lumber magnate is also a hobbyist and insists on the writer visiting him, consulting him with reference to a large renovation to his mills involving water-cooling. The result of the consultation is that the hobbyist discovers a flaw in the plans which saves the contractor and the lumberman money and is paid a consultation fee of \$17,000, which pays off his mortgage and enables him to continue his quiet lifestyle.

This is a friendly, upbeat book, and a fitting reminder of Shute's career.



Shute, Nevil

What happened to the Corbetts; London, Pan Books Ltd;  
(1965, 66, 67, 70, 71) (#10380); (1939, Heinemann) 220p.  
v.t. Ordeal

See my notes under the variant title.







